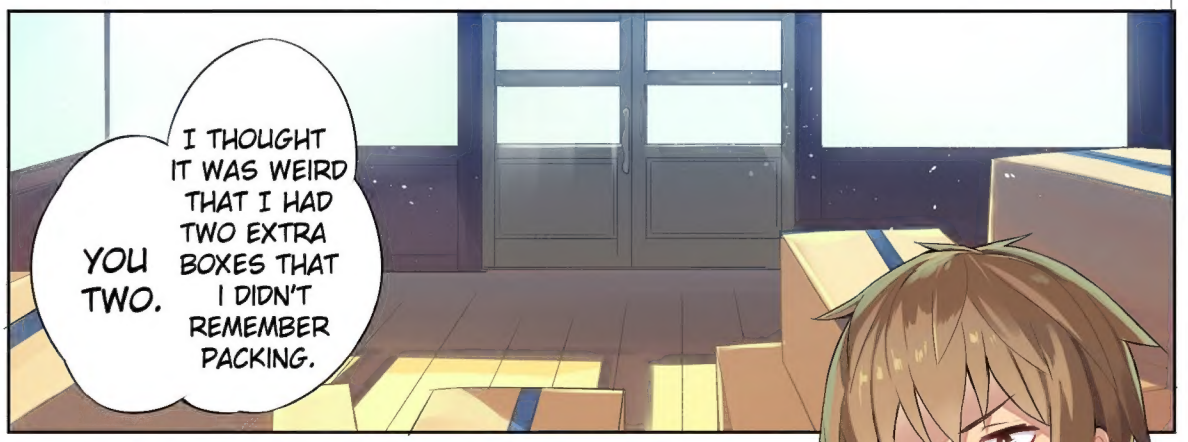
ORIGINAL STORY NEKO WORKs
ADAPTATION Tam-U

NEKOPARA CATS PARADISE

NEKOPARA

VROROR
Patisserie La Soleil
ヤドカリ
引っ越しセンター


YOU TWO.
I THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD THAT I HAD TWO EXTRA BOXES THAT I DIDN'T REMEMBER PACKING.

CARE TO EXPLAIN?
MEOW...

VANILLA

CHOCOLA
LONG TIME NO SEE, MASTER!
EHEHEHE!
WE JUST SAW EACH OTHER AT HOME YESTERDAY.

Modern Japan

More human-looking than cat, -"catgirls"- have integrated into human society, even as family or life-partners.

THESE TWO CATGIRLS BELONG TO MY LITTLE SISTER.

NO DOUBT, SHE'S THE ONE WHO PUT THEM UP TO THIS...

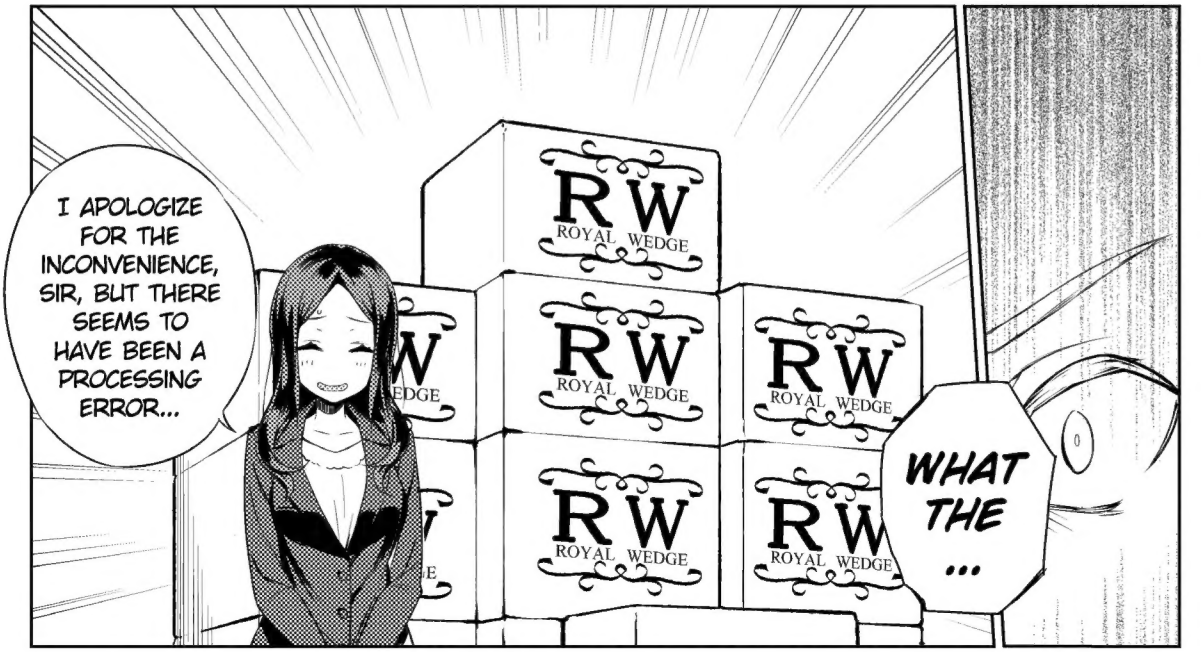
時雨
発信中...

SHE'S NOT PICKING UP...

IS SHE AT WORK?

MASTER, WE'RE DONE ROLLING AROUND IN YOUR BED!

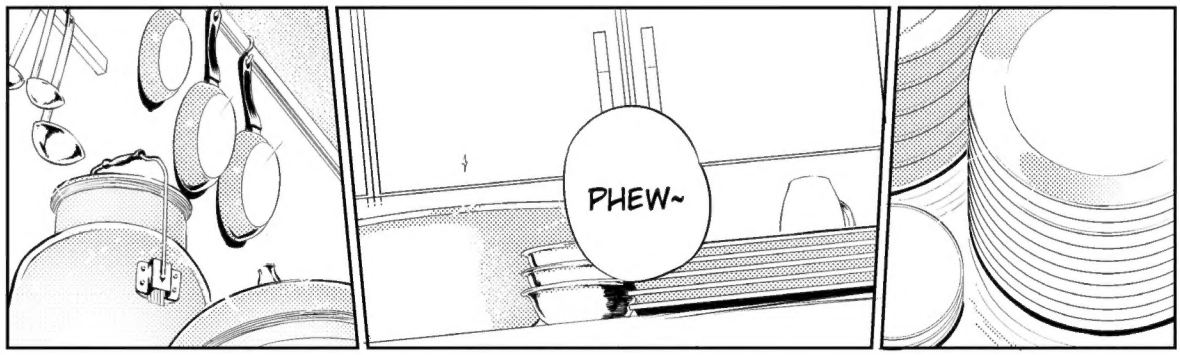
BACK TO THE PREVIOUS MATTER. WHY WERE YOU TWO HIDING AMONG MY STUFF?
すとん
WELL,
YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T GONNA TAKE US WITH YOU! I HAD NO CHOICE!
WHEREVER CHOCOLA GOES, I GO.
OH COME ON! THINK BEFORE YOU ACT, BOTH OF YOU!
OKAY, LISTEN. MY PLAN WAS TO OPEN AND RUN THIS STORE BY MYSELF.
I WON'T HAVE ANY SPARE TIME TO PLAY WITH...
ヒ?
DING DONG!

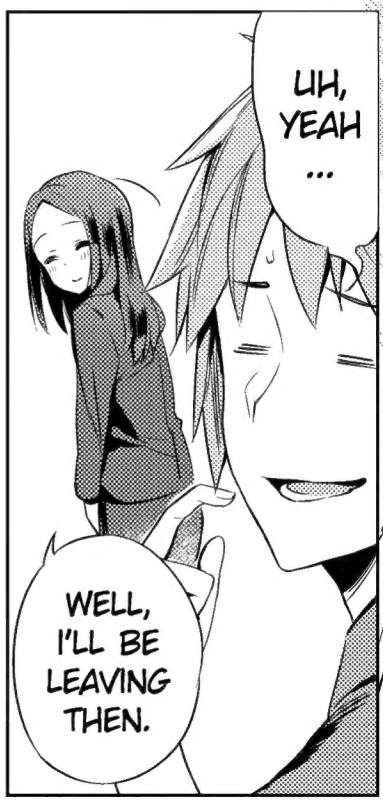

I APOLOGIZE FOR THE INCONVENIENCE, SIR, BUT THERE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A PROCESSING ERROR...
RW ROYAL WEDGE
WHAT THE ...

じ~~~
STAAARE
IF YOU'D BE SO INCLINED TO RETRIEVE YOUR ITEMS FROM THE PILE, I'D BE MORE THAN WILLING TO HELP.
UGH... OKAY, LET'S GET TO IT.
I FEEL LIKE SOME HIGHER POWER IS TRYING TO MAKE OPENING THE STORE HARDER THAN IT NEEDS TO BE...
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS... HOW DO YOU WIND UP DELIVERING DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF BOXES TO ONE PLACE?

SHINE
THIS MAY TAKE A WHILE.

BUT THERE'S A LOT OF FRAGILE ITEMS MIXED IN HERE. WE'LL HAVE TO BE EXTRA CAREFUL.
GOOD POINT. WITH ONLY TWO PAIRS OF HANDS,





WE DID IT!

I WOULD RATHER IT GO TO YOUR CATGIRLS.

yaay!
CHOCOLA
VANILLA,
THANKS FOR HELPING OUT.
MASTER THANKED US FOR OUR WORK, VANILLA!
EAVES-DROPPING FROM AROUND THE CORNER WAS WORTH THE RISK!
WASN'T I USEFUL TO YOU MASTER? WASN'T I?
YOU'D HAVE BEEN IN TROUBLE IF WE WEREN'T AROUND TO HELP, RIGHT? RIGHT? RIGHT?!
WOULDN'T YOU?
WOULDN'T YOU?!
HEY NOW.
GETTING A LITTLE TOO CLOSE TO MY FACE THERE.

SO I'M SORRY, BUT
AT THE END OF THE DAY, I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TWO TO RETURN HOME.
CHILL FOR A MINUTE. WHAT DID I TELL YOU BEFORE?
I SAID I WAS GOING TO RUN THIS PLACE ON MY OWN EFFORT ALONE.
I LEFT THE HOUSE SPECIFICALLY FOR THAT REASON.

MEAN THAT?
YOU...
WE'RE SORRY FOR CAUSING YOU TROUBLE ...
I'LL GO AND... CLEAN SOMETHING FOR A BIT.
FIGURES ...
WELL, OKAY.

CATS CAN BE USEFUL IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.
...HEY MASTER. IS IT REALLY A PROBLEM IF WE STAY HERE?
WE CAN EVEN DO THIS AND THAT...
L-LISTEN, YOU DON'T NEED TO VOLUNTEER YOURSELVES FOR THAT!
YOU HUMANS ARE WEIRD.
THAT LOGIC DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO US CATS.
LOOK, THE LAST THING I WANT IS TO MAKE YOU TWO FEEL SAD OR LONELY.

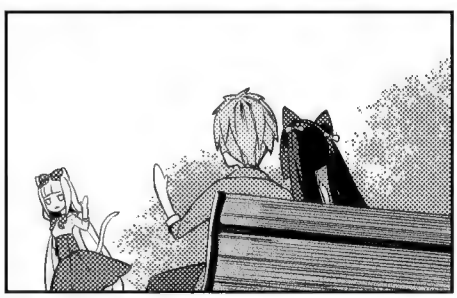
WE WANT TO BE NEAR THE ONES WE LOVE.
AT LEAST, THAT'S HOW I FEEL.
UH...
"WE WANT TO BE NEAR THE ONES WE LOVE."
...HMM.

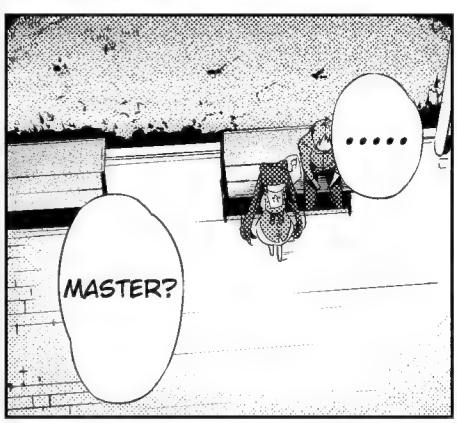
COME ON, SHIGURE, WHY WON'T YOU PICK UP THE PHONE?
時雨
...
...STER
MASTER!
OH!
SORRY, WHAT?
IS THAT ALL WE'RE BUYING TODAY?
UH, NO...
THERE'S STILL A COUPLE THINGS WE NEED.
...
しゅん

SOUNDS GOOD. GET ONE FOR EACH OF US, WOULD YOU?
mission accepted

FIRST, LET'S TAKE A BREATHER.
I'LL GO AND BUY US DRINKS, THEN.
in the park

IF I GO BACK TO THE HOUSE,
CAN I STILL CALL YOU SOME TIMES?

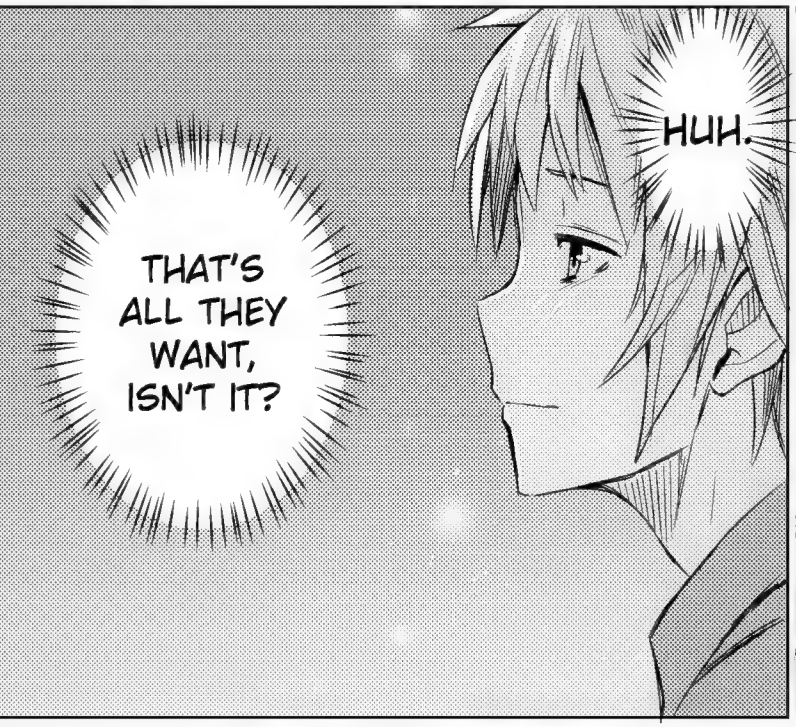



.....
MASTER?

YES, OF COURSE.

RIGHT AFTER YOU FOUND US ON THE STREET
VANILLA AND I BOTH CAUGHT A HORRIBLE FEVER.
AND BROUGHT US HOME WITH YOU TO TAKE CARE OF US,
AND YOU STAYED WITH US ALL NIGHT
UNTIL THE HOSPITAL OPENED IN THE MORNING.
VANILLA AND I ARE HERE BECAUSE OF THE KINDNESS AND LOVE YOU SHOWED US THAT NIGHT.
I'VE LOVED YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE FOR US.
AND THAT HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
FROM THEN ON, YOU'VE BEEN MY ONE AND ONLY MASTER.
...

VANILLA AND I REALLY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO BACK.
BUT...
IF IT'S A BOTHER TO YOU FOR US TO TAG ALONG,


HUH.
THAT'S ALL THEY WANT, ISN'T IT?

WE WANT TO BE NEAR THE ONES WE LOVE.

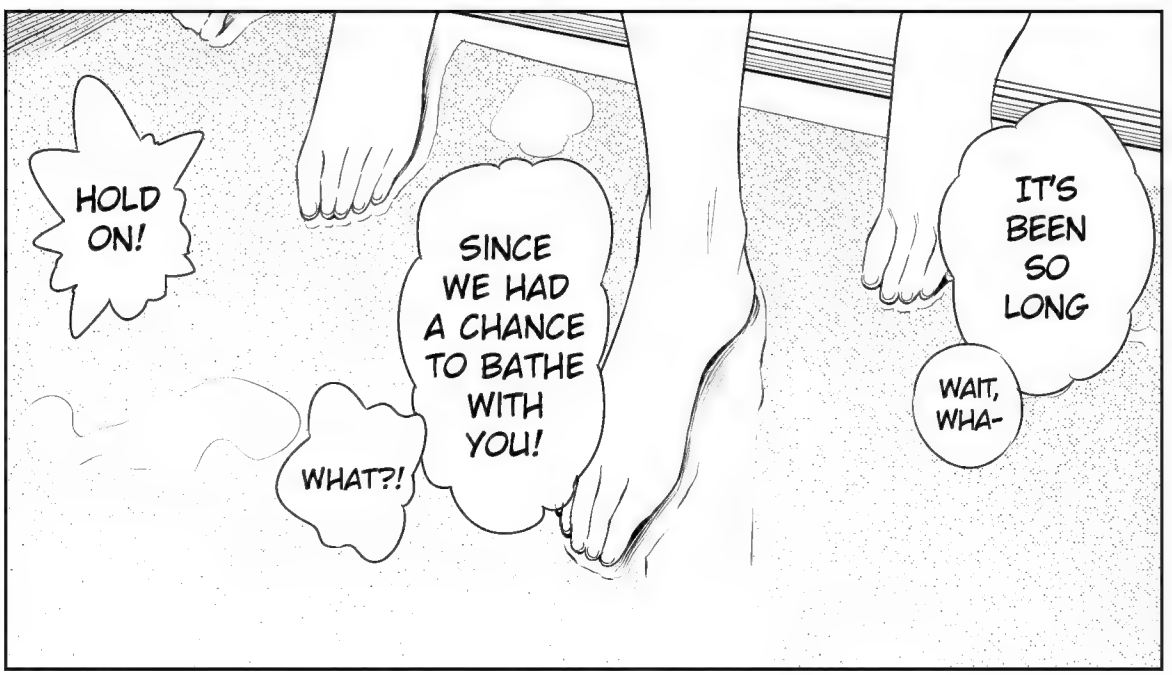
....
REST A BIT, AND WE'LL HEAD OUT.

YOU KNOW, YOUR PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND SUCH.
WE HAVE MORE STUFF TO PICK UP FROM HOME, DON'T WE?
WE'RE OKAY WITH THAT!
LIFE AT MY SHOP ISN'T GOING TO BE AS EASY IT IS AT HOME.
OH, I PROBABLY SHOULD WARN YOU.
SO YOU MEAN ...
WELL, HOW ABOUT THAT ...
I'll always be happy!
As long as you're with me, master.
THEY'RE SO HONEST WITH THEMSELVES.
CATGIRLS MAY BE MORE HUMANLIKE THAN WE'RE LED TO BELIEVE.

Ha..
MAYBE THE ONE WHO NEEDED A REALITY CHECK
WAS ME AFTER ALL.

I TOLD THEM NOT TO FOLLOW ME HERE.

MASTER!
ビクッ!!
MASTERRR!


HOLD ON!
SINCE WE HAD A CHANCE TO BATHE WITH YOU!
WHAT?!
IT'S BEEN SO LONG
WAIT, WHA-

TA~DAH

LET US WASH YOUR BACK!

UWAAAAH NO NO NO!

MEOW!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
DEVELOPED? IN WHAT WAY? I DON'T SEE HOW—
SHIGURE TOLD US HERSELF!
SHE SAID WE'RE BOTH PERFECTLY FINE CAT-LADIES!
SQUISH
むぎゅう
DON'T SEXUALLY HARASS US MASTER.
NGAH!
YOU'RE THE ONES HARASSING ME, VANILLA!
SPLASH

HE LEFT US BEHIND.
AW, MAN...
MASTER'S SO INNOCENT.
ENOUGH!
myah!
I'M GETTING OUT FIRST!
BANG!
OH...
WELL, AT LEAST THEY'RE LIVELY. THAT'S GOOD.
nyaaa
Got you.
sigh
FOR CRYING OUT LOUD.

AND SO...
HERE WE GO!
TO GET THE STORE READY TO OPEN.
I ENLISTED THE CATGIRLS' HELP
AND EVERYTHING WENT ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE!

UNTIL FINALLY...
Patisserie La Soleil's Opening Day!!
Patisserie La Sole
MMHMM!

I MUST SAY, I QUITE LIKE IT!
SIMPLE, PLEASANT INTERIOR. SMALL, AESTHETIC DETAILS ALL CONTRIBUTE TO A NICE ATMOSPHE—
WEL-
WELCOME
WELCOME! TO MEOW SOLEIL!!
M-M-MEOW WE TAKE YOUR ORDER?!
ひらり
U-UM...
COME ON GIRLS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I APOLOGIZE FOR THEIR BEHAVIOR.
MY NAME IS MINADUKI. I AM THE OWNER.
AS YOU CAN TELL, THIS IS OUR FIRST DAY OF BUSINESS,
SO MY EMPLOYEES MIGHT BE A...
LITTLE...
...
...CLUMSY.
CRASH!

UH...
AND THE SAME MAY BE TRUE OF YOURS TRULY...
La Soleil

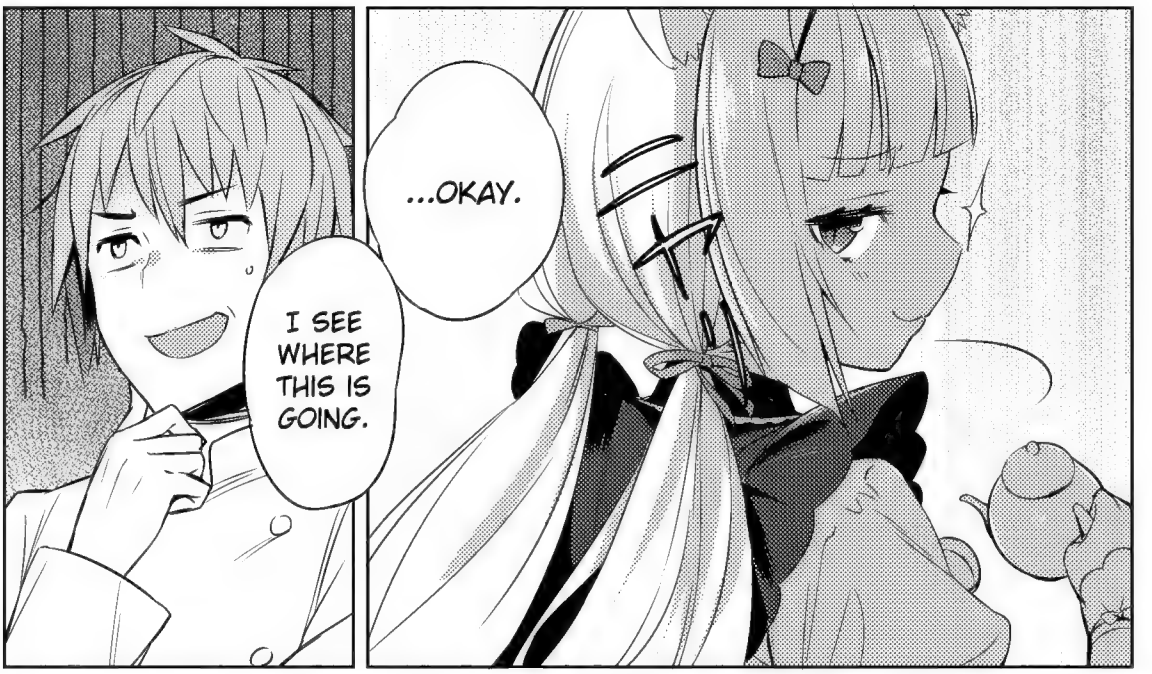
MY OH MY,
YOU SEEM TO BE OFFERING SOME EXTREME SERVICES FOR A PATISSIER ...
!

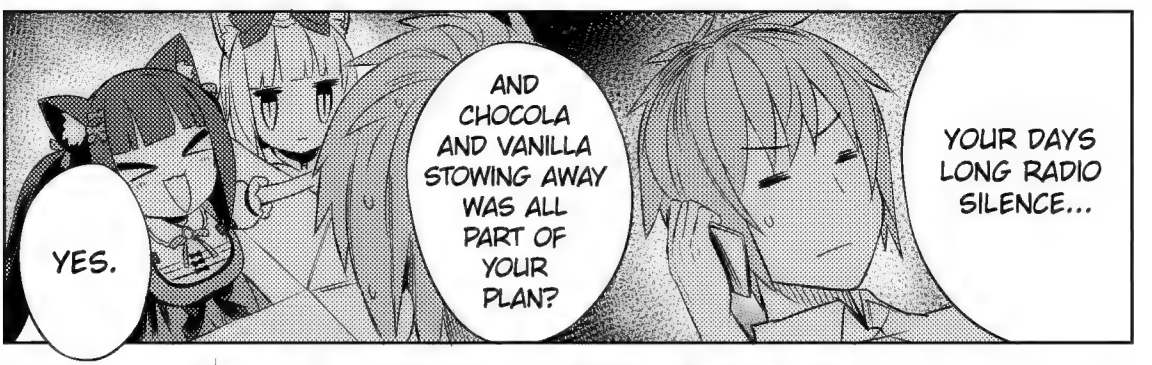
HIS LITTLE SISTER SUDDENLY DROPS IN!

TO BE CONTINUED IN CHAPTER 2!

WOW!
THE DECOR HERE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE KITCHEN AT HOME!
OF COURSE. THIS IS A BAKERY, NOT A CON-FECTIONARY.
... PUTTING THAT ASIDE,
La Soleil
HOW EXACTLY DID YOU GET YOUR HANDS ON THIS FLYER?
I HAVEN'T EVEN DISTRIBUTED THESE YET.
HU HU HU.
La Soleil

Chapter 2: The bells


I SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING.
...OKAY.

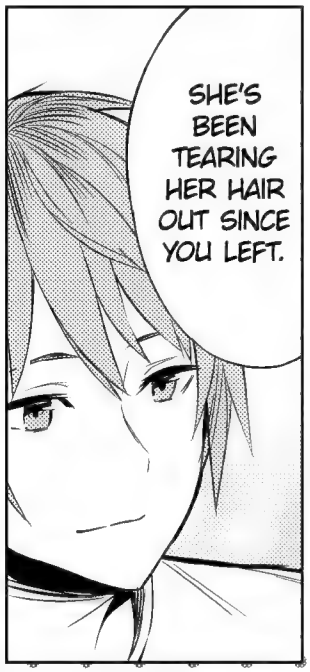

YOUR DAYS LONG RADIO SILENCE...
AND CHOCOLA AND VANILLA STOWING AWAY WAS ALL PART OF YOUR PLAN?
YES.

THIS WAS ALL DONE TO HELP YOUR DREAM COME TRUE.
AND WELL, BECAUSE I DEEMED IT NECESSARY.
SO IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHO'S RESPONSIBLE, DON'T LOOK TO THEM—

I deserve the blame. Punish me. Softly, with inexorable passion!
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU TRYING TO IMPLY?
ha ha
I'M SORRY I MADE YOU WORRY.
WHATEVER. I WAS THE ONE WHO FLEW THE NEST WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING.
....

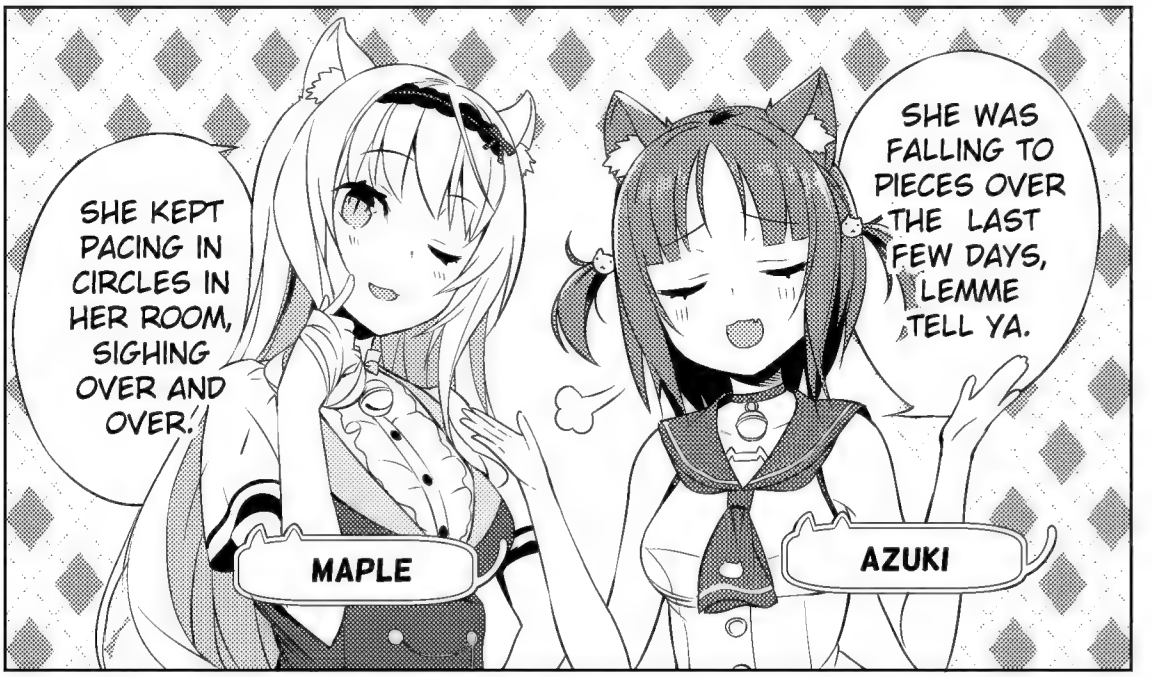
NOW THAT WE'VE CALMED DOWN,
PLEASE CALL MOTHER AND TELL HER EVERYTHING'S OKAY.

Kyusu
I WILL. PROMISE.


SHE'S BEEN TEARING HER HAIR OUT SINCE YOU LEFT.

BY THE WAY, BROTHER ...
HMM?

YOU'LL NEED TO GET THOSE TWO QUALIFIED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
?
HEYO, KASHOU!
"QUAL-IFIED?"
DON!
WHY DON'T YOU LOOSEN UP?
IT'S NOT LIKE SHIGURE'S A STRANGER TO YOU!


SHE KEPT PACING IN CIRCLES IN HER ROOM, SIGHING OVER AND OVER.
SHE WAS FALLING TO PIECES OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS, LEMME TELL YA.
MAPLE
AZUKI

NEITHER OF THEM ARE HONEST WITH THEM-SELVES.
Aren't they supposed to be older than us?
SO SHE SAYS, BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT AZU-CHAN AND MEI-CHAN WERE WORRIED SICK OVER YOU TOO.
COCONUT
CINNAMON

PERFECT TIMING, GIRLS!
CUT ME SOME SLACK, GEEZ!

OHO~
THOSE BELLS SERVE AS PROOF THAT THEY'RE QUALIFIED.
WELL,
BELLS ARE ALWAYS IN FASHION FOR US CATS ANYWAY.
IF YOU ALLOW A CAT TO WORK IN PUBLIC,
YOU NEED TO GET THEM AN INDEPENDENT ACTION PERMIT BEFORE YOU HIRE THEM.
WITH THIS,THEY ALSO GET PERMISSION TO ENTER PLACES THAT OTHERWISE FORBID PETS.

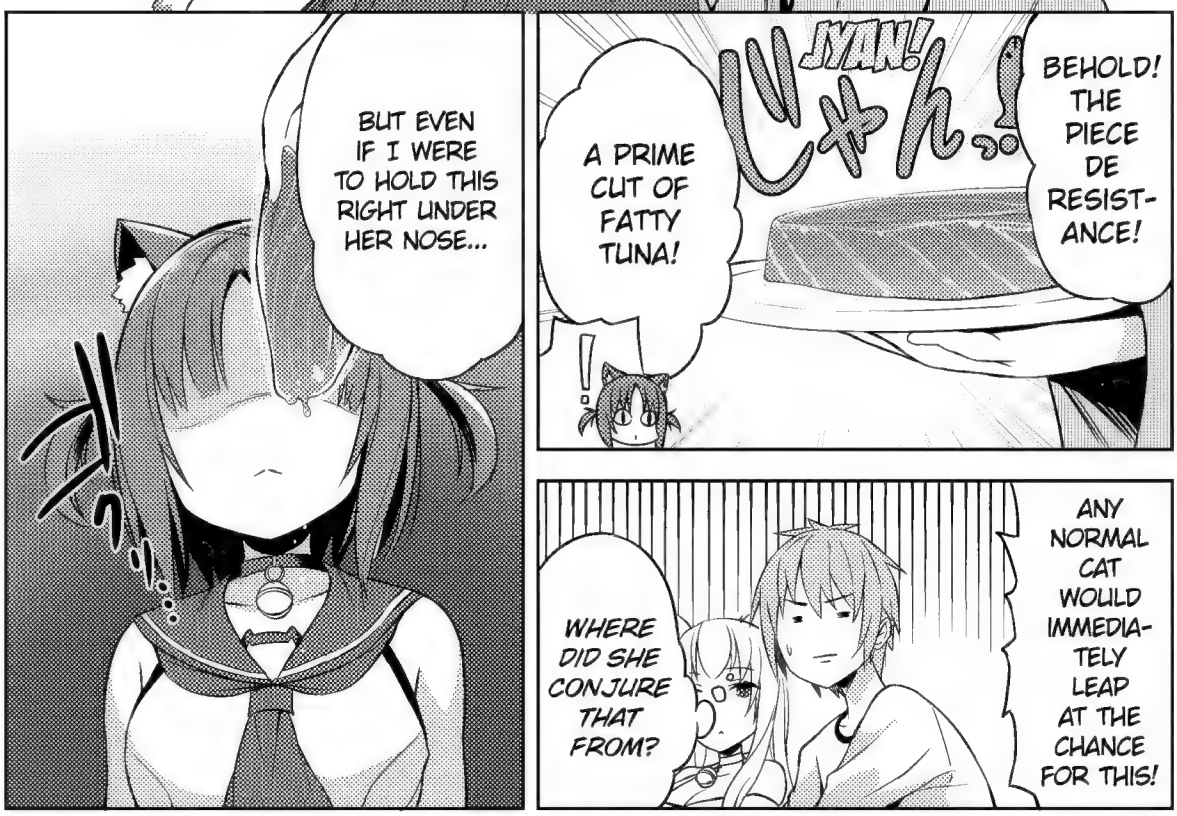
THEY EVEN COME WITH GPS TRACKING SO YOU WON'T LOSE THEM.
Wow, high tech!
MASTER!
IF WE GET BELLS LIKE THAT TOO,
WILL YOU BE PROUD OF US?
...NO KIDDING, SHIGURE. PERFECT TIMING INDEED.

A FEW DAYS LATER ...
CLOSED
EARNING THOSE BELLS, STEP ONE!
YOUR MAIN CONDITION FOR GETTING THAT BELL:
"ACT LIKE A HUMAN, LIVE AS A CAT!"
THE ENTIRE TEST WILL FOCUS ON THIS ONE PRINCIPLE!
NOW REPEAT THOSE WORDS!
THE ENTIRE TEST WILL FOCUS ON THIS ONE PRINCIPLE!
NO, NOT THOSE WORDS!
I MEANT THE LINE BEFORE THAT! THE "ACT LIKE A HUMAN" BIT!
LISTEN CLOSELY!
YOU CAN'T LET YOUR KITTY HABITS AND INSTINCTS GET THE BETTER OF YOU!
AS WORKING CATS, YOU HAVE TO RESIST THOSE URGES AND GET YOUR JOBS DONE!

LET'S HAVE AZUKI SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE!

MWAH?

WHY ME? I DUN WANNA.



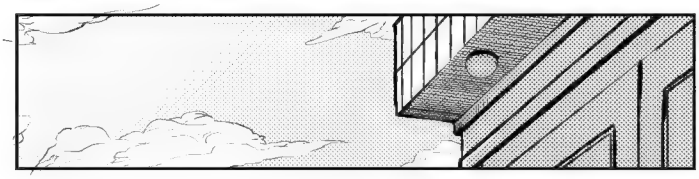
MMMMMEOW!
AH.
HEY!
BASU
...
OKAY
NOT GIVING UP THAT EASY, HUH?
WELL, BAD EXAMPLE. SHE'LL BE PUNISHED FOR THAT LATER.

COCONUT!
OOOOH!
IMPRESSIVE, COCONUT-CHAN!
RESIST THE ALLURE OF THIS FEATHER TOY!
THAT'S SOME PRO-LEVEL COMPOSURE.
HEH, THIS MUCH IS EASY.
I COULD KEEP THIS UP FOR HOURS—

BOOP!

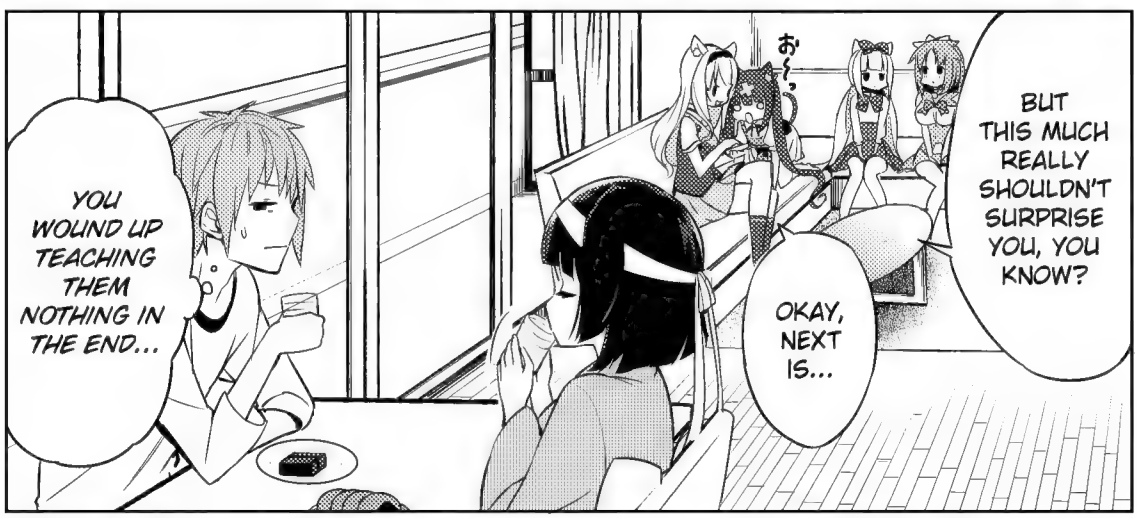
MRRRROW!

OWIE!

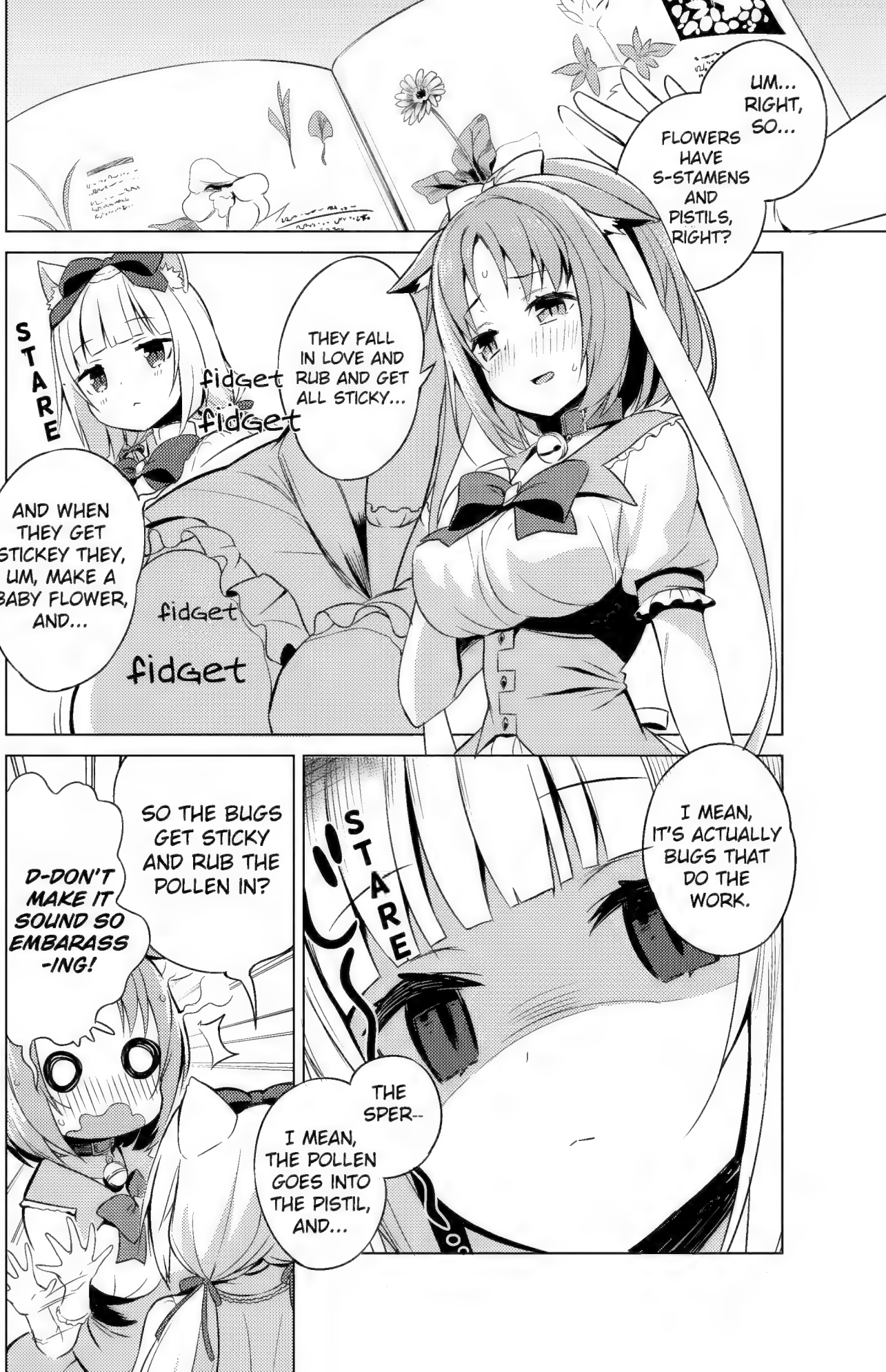


SMARTPHONE LESSONS
YOU HAVE THE BEST REACTIONS TO EVERYTHING, CHOCOLA!
WOWIE! YOU'RE AN EMOJI MASTER!

MAPLE -CHAN, THAT'S SO COOL!


YOU WOUND UP TEACHING THEM NOTHING IN THE END...
OKAY, NEXT IS...
おぐっ
BUT THIS MUCH REALLY SHOULDN'T SURPRISE YOU, YOU KNOW?

VANILLA -CHAN! ARE YOU READY FOR MY LESSON?
WELL, IT'S EASIER TO LET THE OTHERS LEAD BY EXAMPLE THAN TRY AND FAIL OURSELVES.


UM... RIGHT, SO...
FLOWERS HAVE S-STAMENS AND PISTILS, RIGHT?
STARE
fidget
fidget
THEY FALL IN LOVE AND RUB AND GET ALL STICKY...
AND WHEN THEY GET STICKEY THEY, UM, MAKE A BABY FLOWER, AND...
fidget
fidget
SO THE BUGS GET STICKY AND RUB THE POLLEN IN?
D-DON'T MAKE IT SOUND SO EMBARASS -ING!
STARE
I MEAN, IT'S ACTUALLY BUGS THAT DO THE WORK.
THE SPER--
I MEAN, THE POLLEN GOES INTO THE PISTIL, AND...

pant
pant
pant
Y-YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE A SENSE OF SHAME LIKE HUMANS DO!
VANILLA -CHAN...
WHEN YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT, I CAN'T HELP MYSELF...!
I'm gonna get all weeeet!!
AND SO WITH UNEASE IN HIS HEART, THEY PRESSED ON.
JUST FOR GOOD MEASURE, YOU SHOULD READ THROUGH THESE GUIDES TOO.
I'M REALLY WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER THIS'LL WORK OUT.

MASTER, WE'RE BACK!
WE'RE BACK~
AH.
WELCOME HOME, YOU TWO.
DID YOUR DELIVERY GO WELL?
OF COURSE!
PERFECTLY.
YOU BARELY MANAGED TO PASS, BUT YOU DID IT.
YOU'RE NOW FULL-FLEDGED POSTER GIRLS FOR SOLEIL.
なで
なで
Hee Hee!

ONLY 5% OF TESTERS PASS THE FIRST ROUND, THEY SAID.
どやっ
proud
THEY SAID WE'RE THE YOUNGEST CATGIRLS WHO HAVE EVER PASSED TOO!
I'M OKAY WITH JUST BEING ABLE TO BATHE WITH YOU, MASTER!
NOT HAPPEN -ING!
NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, AS LONG AS SALES STAY UP,
YOU CAN EXPECT TO GET REWARDS ON THE REGULAR.
Yaaay!

YAAY, I LOVE YOU, MASTER!
MASTER'S THE BEST.

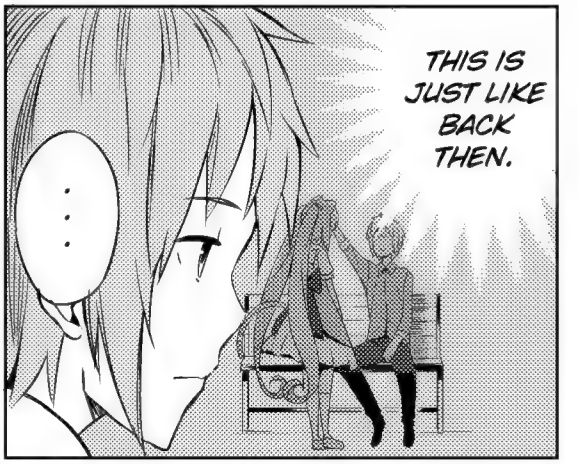
OKAY, I'll WORK SOMETHING OUT.
DON'T GET TOO HOPEFUL, THOUGH.
I WANT SOME TOO!
WELL, I'LL BE HAPPY IF YOU BUY ME SOME CLOTHES, THEN!

MOVING ON,

HM?

SHOPPING'S FINSIHED TOO, SO LET'S TAKE A BREAK.
I'LL GO BUY US DRINKS THEN.

HUH.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
WE SAT HERE LAST TIME WE WERE IN THE AREA.


THIS IS JUST LIKE BACK THEN.
...

THE ONE THING I KNOW FOR SURE,
IS THAT THERE'S NO POINT IN THINKING ABOUT IT.
HUH?

WHAT WOULD MY LIFE BE LIKE NOW IF I HAD SENT YOU BACK AND LIVED ALONE?
I DON'T KNOW.
...BUT

NO MATTER WHAT MAY HAVE HAPPENED,
I WOULD HAVE FOUND A WAY TO RETURN TO YOU SOMEHOW.
I'D NEVER LEAVE YOU ALONE LIKE THAT, MASTER.
CHOCOLA...
YES?

FROM NOW ON,

I NEED YOU BY MY SIDE.

HAVING YOU WITH ME FILLS ME WITH LIFE.

Wh—

Whaa—?

MA...

MAS-TER!

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING TO CHOCOLA?!

Chapter 3: We know what we want

Chocola&Vanilla
Mmh...
I CAN'T DO IT.
Sigh...!
MY HEART'S STILL RACING
Haaah~
Haaah~
AND I JUST CAN'T CALM DOWN!
Haaah~
Haaah~

MASTER'S SCENT IS SO SWEET.
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
JUST THINKING ABOUT IT MAKES ME-
CHOCOLA?
HNYAAAAH?!

M-MYA-STER?!

DON'T YOU KNOW YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO KNOCK BEFORE YOU COME IN?!

HUH?

OH, GOOD POINT. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

...ANYWAY, C'MON, WE'RE GOING TO THE CLINIC.

Hwuh?

WHAT ABOUT THE SHOP?

CLOSED

We're temporarily closed.

I JUST CLOSED UP.

YOU'VE BEEN UNDER THE WEATHER ALL DAY.
HOW COULD I JUST WORK AND LEAVE YOU HERE?

D-DON'T DO THAT!
HAAH...
HAAH...
HAAH...
PLEASE DON'T GET
HAAH...
SO CLOSE TO ME...!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW OUT-OF-IT YOU ARE?
STAAAAAAARE

SNIFF
SNIFF
CHOCOLA, COULD IT BE?
APPAROACH
I KNEW IT.
BLUUUUSH
YOU'RE IN A HEAP, AREN'T YOU?
UH...
?

OH, NO.
"IN A HEAP"?
FLUUUUSH
DOES SHE MEAN SHE'S IN HEAT?!
I-I GET IT! I UNDER-STAND, OKAY?!
THAT'S HOW THIS STARTED?
WHEN YOU PRAISE OR PET ME LIKE YOU DID, MASTER!
I KNOW YOU DON'T HAVE THAT IN MIND

I THOUGHT WE WERE A WAYS OFF FROM THIS SO I SKIMMED OVER THAT PART!
MASTER.
I REMEMBER ONE OF MY CAT-RAISING BOOKS SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
"IT TENDS TO SHOW WHEN CATS ARE QUICK TO DEVELOP."
CHOCOLA'S NOT GONNA GET ANY BETTER AT THIS RATE.
HAAH... HAAH...
HAAH... HAAH...
WHAT NOW?
YOU HAVE TO GIVE HER AN OUTLET.
O-OUT-LET?! HOW?!

DOES THAT MAKE IT RIGHT TO GO THIS FAR WITH CHOCOLA?
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT!
IT'S AN EMERGENCY.
EVEN ASSUMING I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE,
BUT EVEN IN THAT CASE,
?!
IS THAT HESITATION I HEAR?

WHO ARE YOU?!

I'M THE INCARNATION OF YOUR INNER FEELINGS FOR CHOCOLA!

IF YOU REALLY TREASURE CHOCOLA DEEP IN YOUR HEART,

THE ANSWER SHOULD BE OBVIOUS TO YOU ALREADY.

YOU WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST HUMAN TO FORM SUCH A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS CAT.

THE WORLD'S FULL OF COUPLES LIKE THAT!

OB-JEC-TION

Gasp!

DON'T YOU GO IGNORING CHOCOLA'S FEELINGS ON THIS!
YOU'RE ONLY BASING THAT ON MASTER'S FEELINGS ALONE.
MENACING
MASTER AND CHOCOLA MIGHT NOT WANT THE SAME THING HERE!
GAAAAAH!!
STAB
WHAP
THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HER TO GET CLOSER TO THE HUMAN SHE LOVES!
THAT'S NONSENSE!
.....
Nnnngh...

MASTER, HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN?
WE'RE CATS.
WE KNOW WHAT WE WANT, AND WE'RE HONEST ABOUT IT.
WE ALREADY KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO MAKE US HAPPY.
ASSUMING THERE'S ANYTHING BEYOND THAT IS OVERTHINKING IT.

SO IF YOU HAVE CHOCOLA'S BEST INTERESTS IN MIND...
...GET IT?
I HAD IT BACK-WARDS.
...
VANILLA...

I SHOULD DO IT **BECAUSE** I CARE FOR HER.

MASTER,

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I REALLY DO LOVE YOU.

I WANT TO BE USEFUL TO YOU.

I ALWAYS WANT YOU TO PRAISE ME.

ALL BECAUSE OF HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU.

I KNOW MY HORMONES MADE THIS HAPPEN.
BUT,
THE HAPPINESS THAT COMES FROM FEELING YOUR TOUCH
HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH INSTINCT.
I NEED TO BE HONEST WITH MYSELF AS WELL.

THERE'S NO REPLACE-MENT
CHOCOLA...
MASTER...
FOR FAMILY, AFTER ALL.

Choc
TENSE
Mmh...
Mmyah!...
TWITCH
Haaahh...
TWITCH
Hnnh!...
Haah...
Haah...
Master,
I...
Haah...
Haah...

hapter 3: Get Your Feelings Across

MASTER,
.....
HAAH...
HAAH...
HAAH...

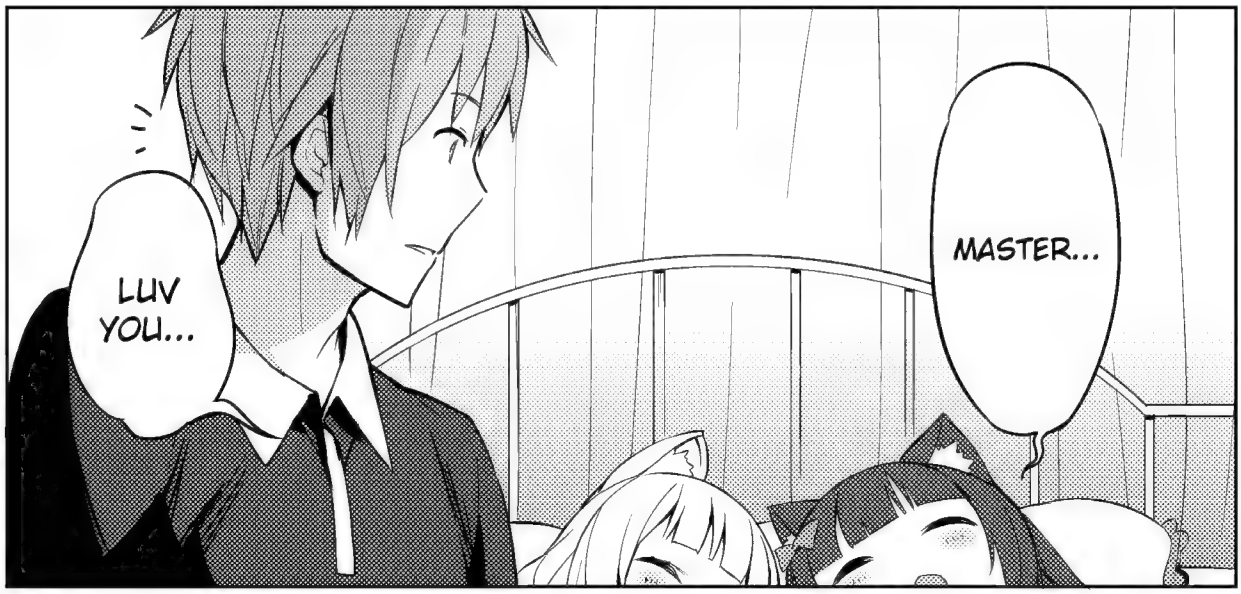
YEAH...

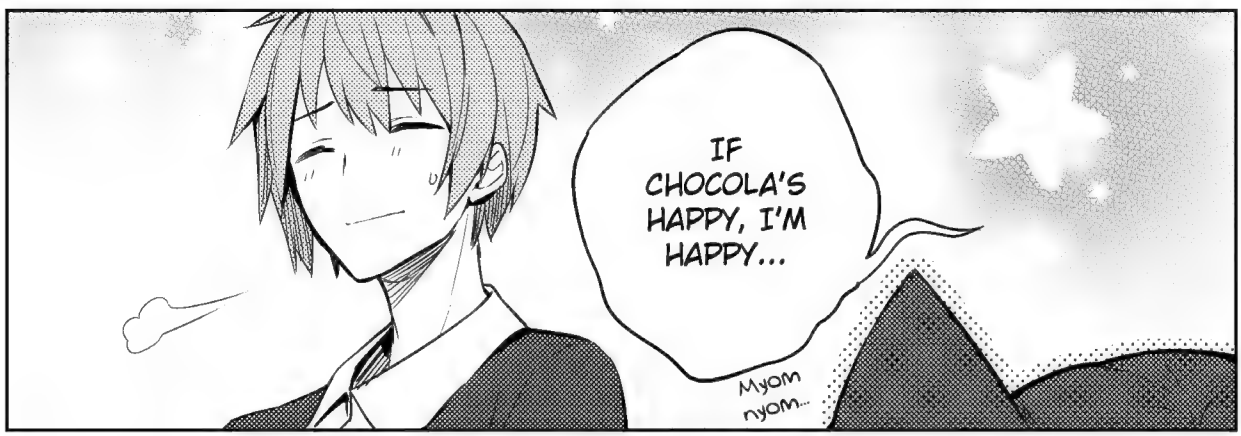
DID I
DO A GOOD JOB RECEIVING YOUR LOVE...?

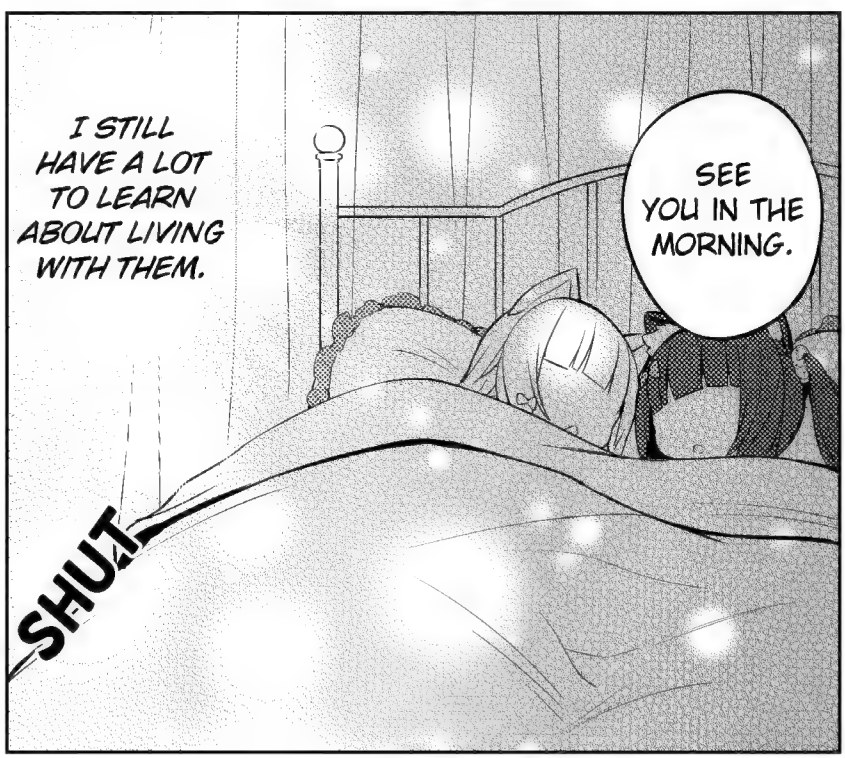
THE FIRST TIME I MET THEM.
I NEVER WOULD HAVE IMAGINED THIS
YOU DID GREAT.

すう…

すう…


MASTER...
LUV YOU...


IF CHOCOLA'S HAPPY, I'M HAPPY...
Myom nyom...


I STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT LIVING WITH THEM.
SEE YOU IN THE MORNING.
SHUT

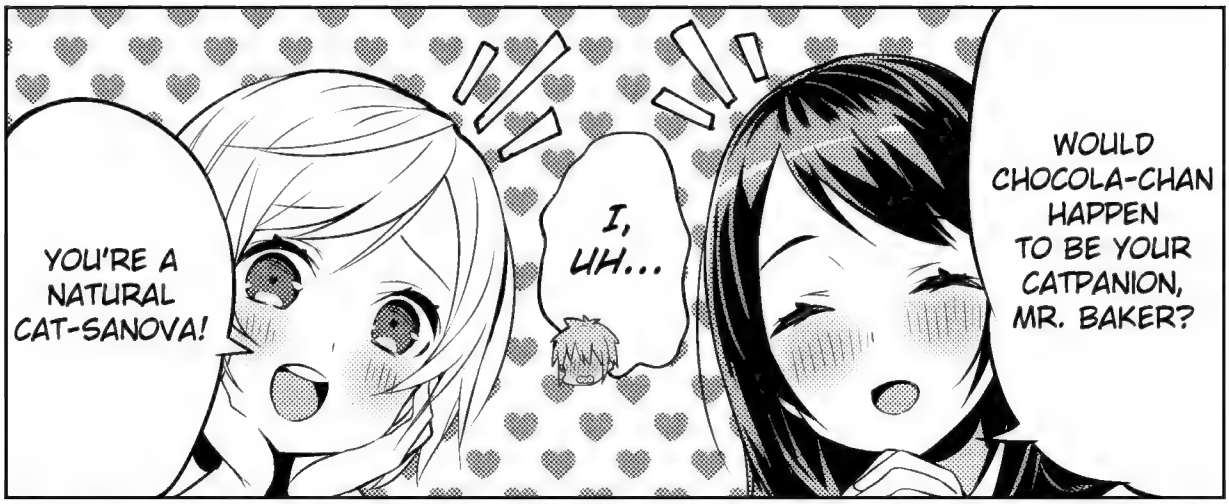
SLEEP WELL.

JOLT

PECK

!!

HEY! NOT DURING BUSINESS HOURS!
YOU'RE JUST AS CUTE WHEN YOU'RE BLUSHING, MASTER! ♪
OKAY, I'M HEADING OUT!
GOODNESS ME...!

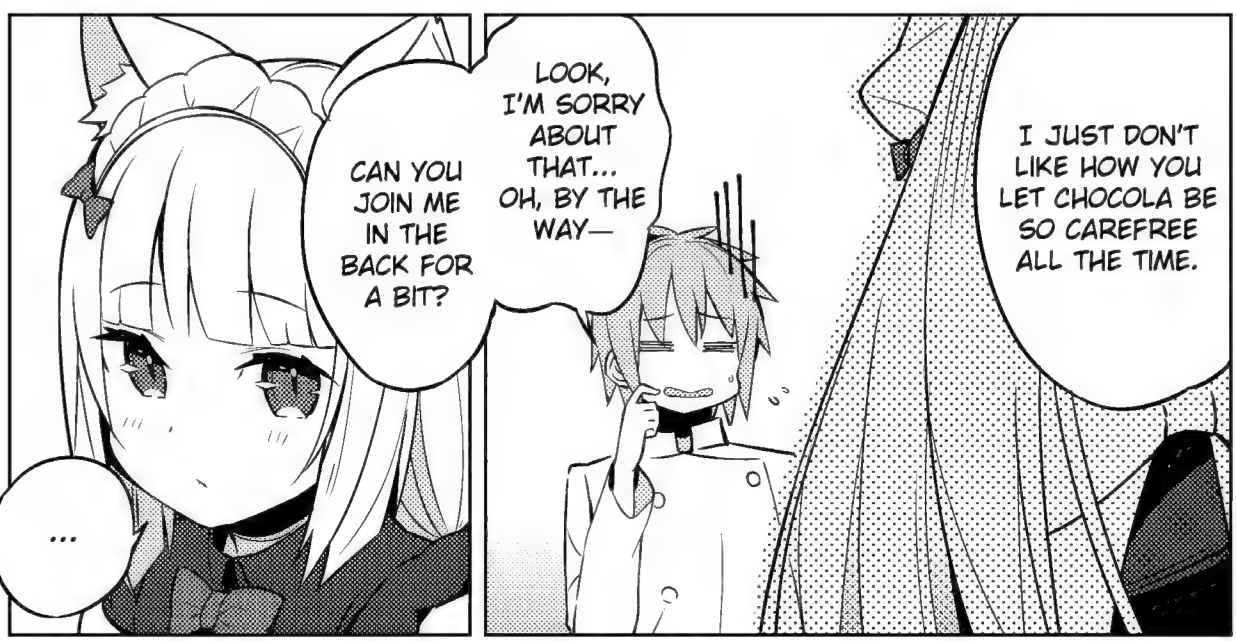

WOULD CHOCOLA-CHAN HAPPEN TO BE YOUR CATPANION, MR. BAKER?
I, UH...
YOU'RE A NATURAL CAT-SANOVA!

I'M REALLY NOT COM-FORTABLE WITH THIS TOPIC...
Sorry!

MASTER...

HOW ARE YOU GETTING FLUSTERED AND SEDUCED SO EASILY, HUH?
D'WHA?!
Wait!
THAT'S NOT IT! DON'T GET MAD!

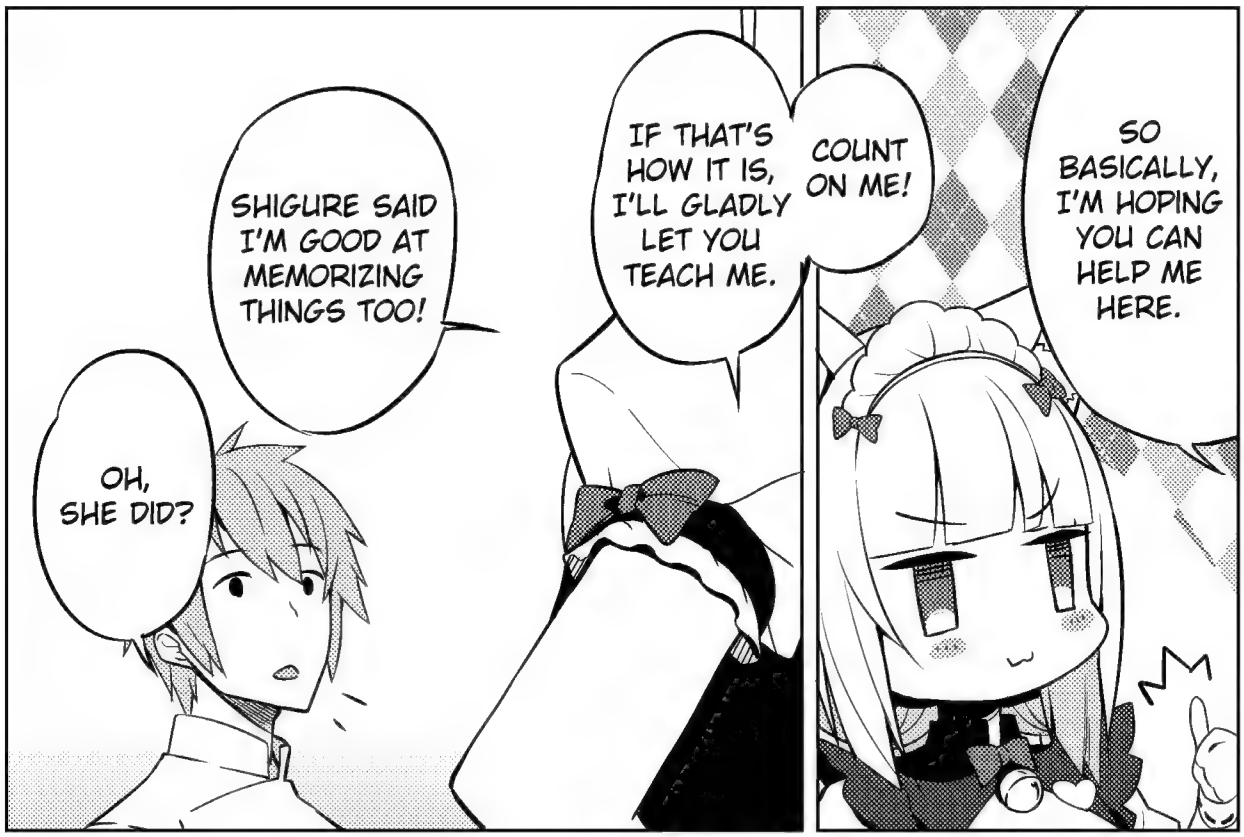
ぷいっ
I'M NOT MAD.
I'M ALWAYS A CALM KITTY. EVEN SHIGURE SAYS SO.
DOES SHE NOW?


I JUST DON'T LIKE HOW YOU LET CHOCOLA BE SO CAREFREE ALL THE TIME.
LOOK, I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT... OH, BY THE WAY—
CAN YOU JOIN ME IN THE BACK FOR A BIT?
...

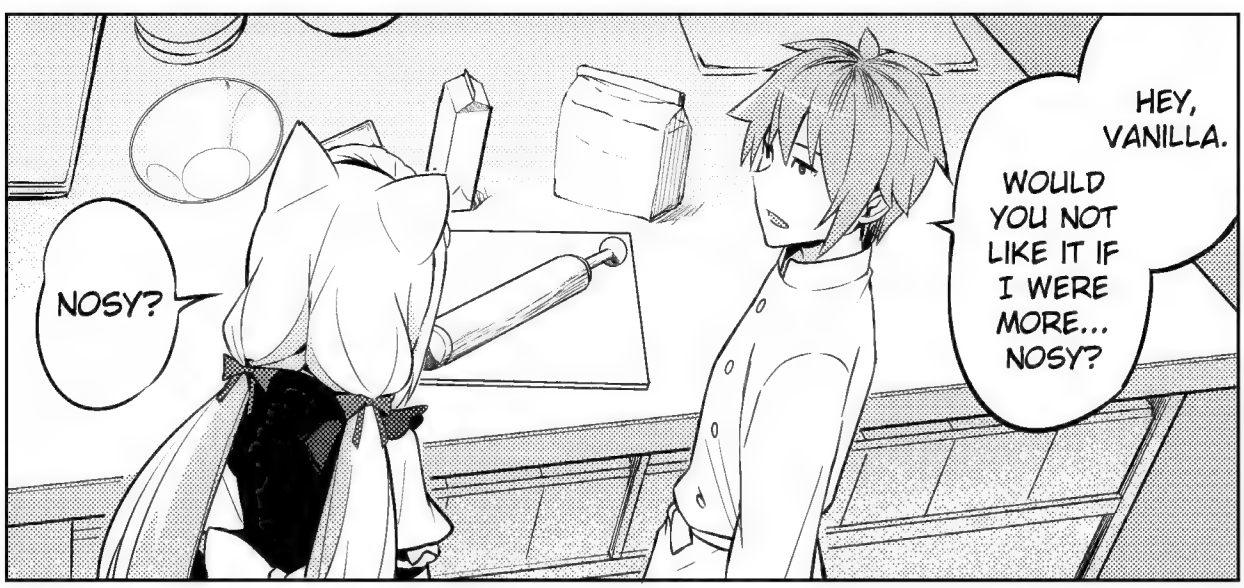
OOH!
I'M MAKING CAKES?! DOES THIS MEAN I'VE GONE UP A KITTY RANK?!
I FELT IT WAS TIME YOU LEARNED TO MAKE CAKES YOURSELF.

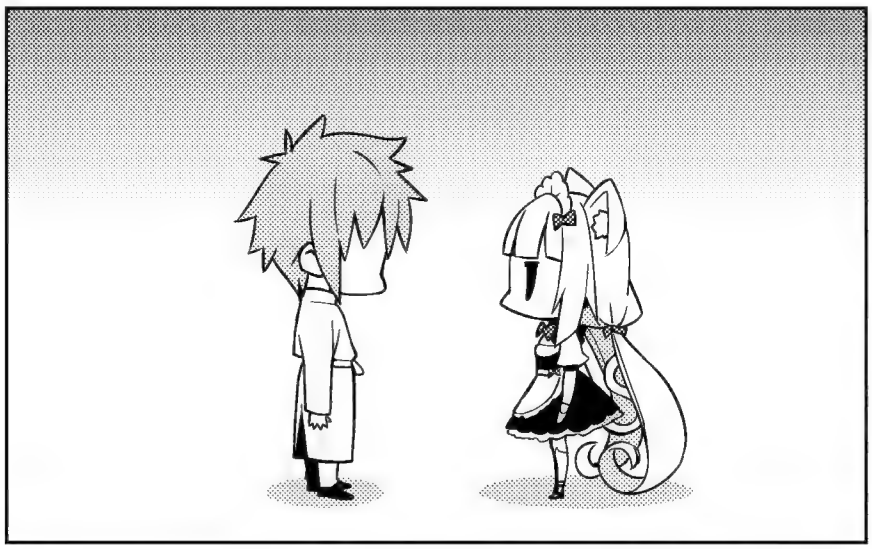
BUT WHY ONLY ME?
Dirty intent?!
WELL, NO OFFENSE TO OUR POSTER CATGIRL, BUT...

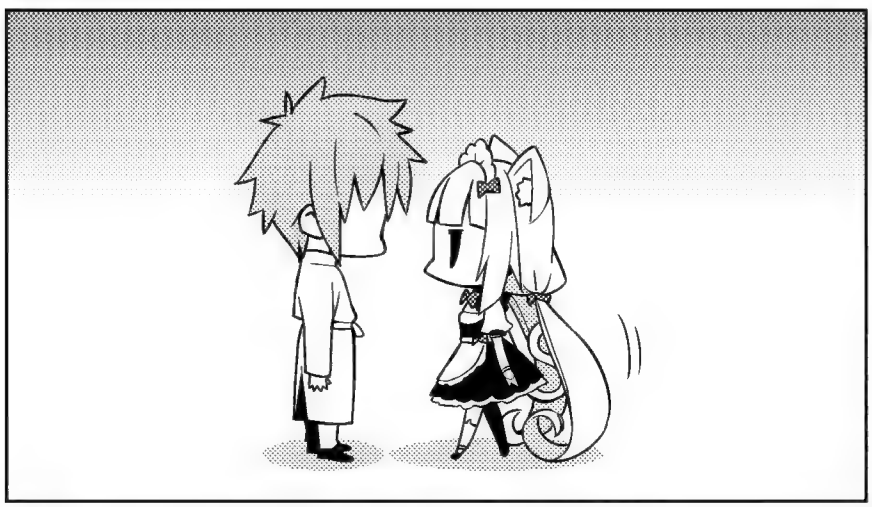
I CAN'T REALLY TRUST HER TO HANDLE THIS.
SHE'D PROBABLY JUST WING IT EVERY TIME SHE TRIES.


SO BASICALLY, I'M HOPING YOU CAN HELP ME HERE.
COUNT ON ME!
IF THAT'S HOW IT IS, I'LL GLADLY LET YOU TEACH ME.
SHIGURE SAID I'M GOOD AT MEMORIZING THINGS TOO!
OH, SHE DID?

FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD THAT...
...


HEY, VANILLA.
WOULD YOU NOT LIKE IT IF I WERE MORE... NOSY?
NOSY?





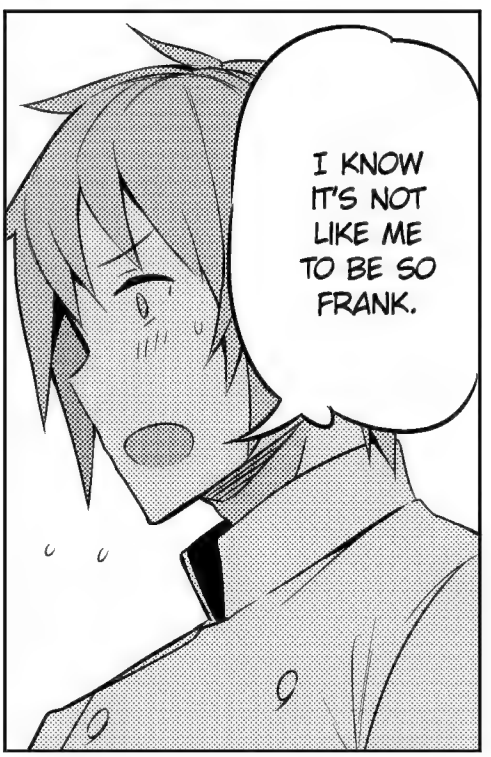
I FEEL LIKE I WANT TO BE CLOSER TO YOU, VANILLA.
...

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT PHYSICAL DISTANCE HERE!
Kidding.

IT'S JUST THAT I WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOU. I WANT TO UNDERSTAND YOU BETTER.
I MEAN...
YOU AND CHOCOLA ARE BOTH MY CATS.
YOU'RE EQUALLY IRREPLACE-ABLE.
I THINK...
BA-DUMP

I'M NOT USED TO THIS SERIOUS STUFF.
ガ
ちょちょちょ…

BUT I JUST WANT TO MAKE MYSELF CLEAR.
YEAH.
I KNOW.


I KNOW IT'S NOT LIKE ME TO BE SO FRANK.

I THINK YOU HAVE A KNACK
FOR GETTING YOUR FEELINGS ACROSS, MASTER.
SO IT'S OKAY.
VANIL-LA!
...OH.
WHAT'S UP?
sniff sniff

Huh?
I'M PICKING SOMETHING UP COMING FROM YOU...
OH, NO.
A REALLY SWEET SCENT...
IS IT HER TURN NOW?!
Hmmm-yah...

MYASTER!

WHAT'S WRONG, MASTER?

WE'RE SO HIGH UP! LOOK AT HOW HIGH WE'RE GOING!

2...

WHY WOULDN'T WE LIKE HIGH PLACES?

HOW ARE YOU TWO SO CALM RIGHT NOW?

HMM?

IS...

IS IT?

YOUR FACE IS PURPLE LIKE A SWEET POTATO.

3...

WE'RE CATS. GOING UP HIGH GETS US HYPED UP!
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT LIKING HEIGHTS!
I...
HAPPY TRAILS!
NYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!

chapter 5 Catpanions

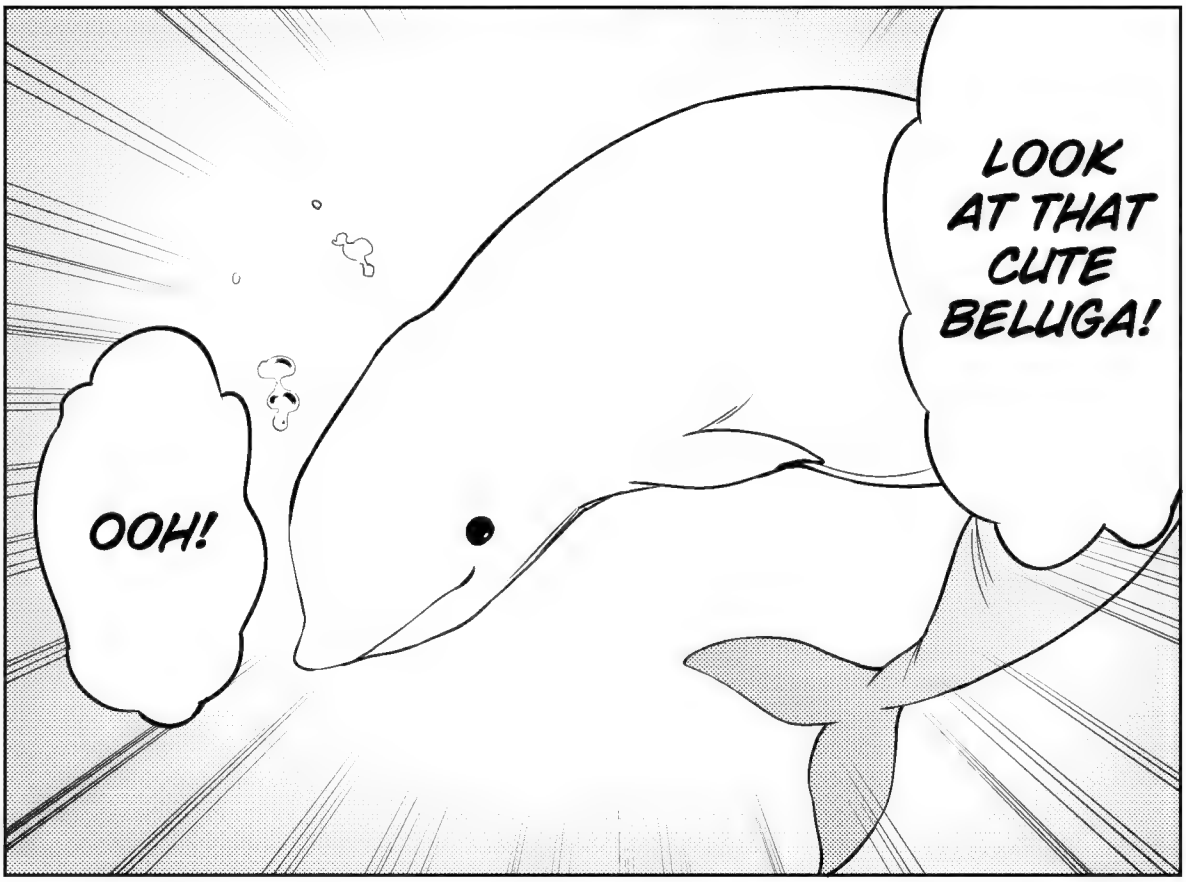
GIDDYAP, GIDDYAP!
EVEN SLOW THINGS LIKE THIS CAN BE FUN!
MYASTER, ARE YOU OKAY?
NO, I, UH...
I'M JUST A LITTLE EMBAR-RASSED THAT I'M SO WEAK AT MY AGE.

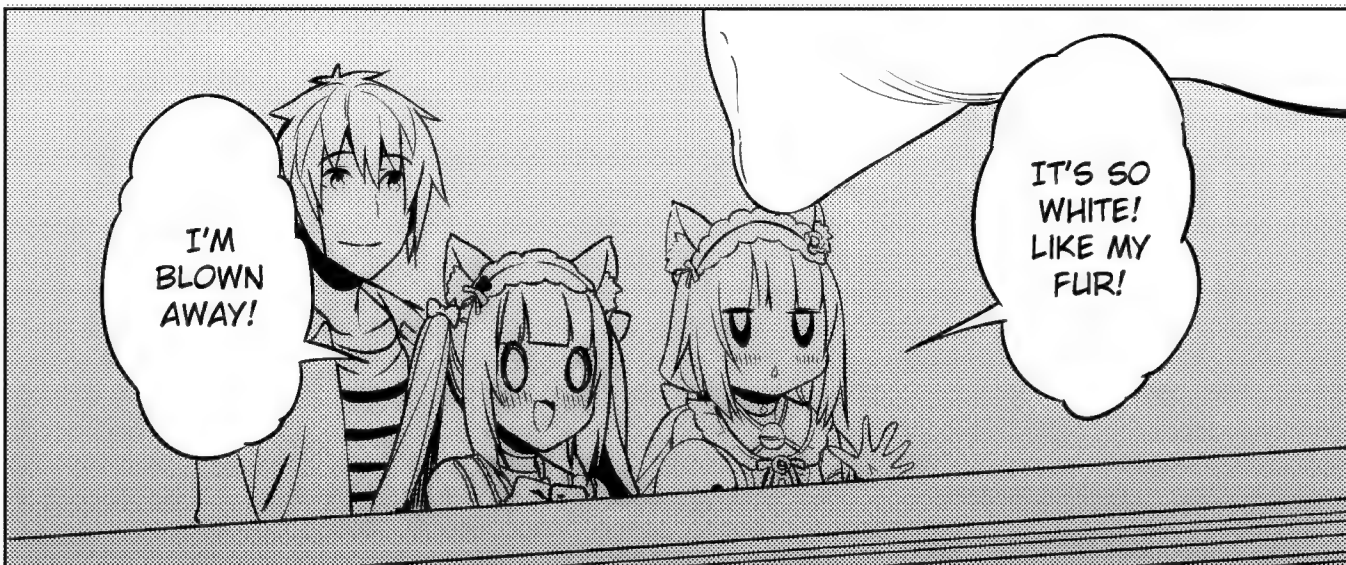
NYAAAAAH!!!
MYAS-TERRRRRR!!!
Calm down!
COME ON, THEY'RE NOT REAL!

OOH...

IT'S AN UNDERWATER TUNNEL! SO COOL!
WHAT A BIG FISH TANK!

OH, OH, LOOK! OVER THERE, VANILLA!

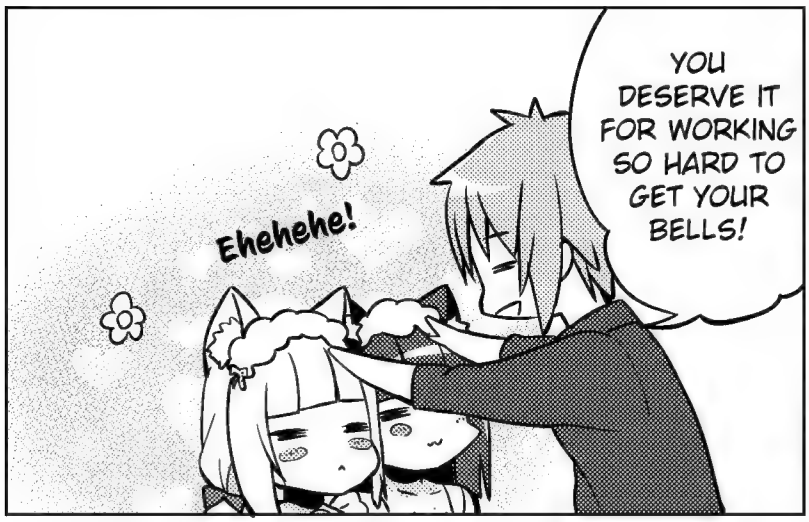

LOOK AT THAT CUTE BELUGA!
OOH!


I'M BLOWN AWAY!
IT'S SO WHITE! LIKE MY FUR!

AND THAT OVER THERE'S A WHALE SHARK!
Ooooh!
HEY, NOW.
IT'S DARK IN HERE. SLOW DOWN OR YOU'LL TRIP.
...I'M GLAD.

IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO CLOSE UP
AND LET THEM RUN AROUND HERE.

MASTER!
WE'VE NEVER BEEN TO AN AQUARIUM OR A THEME PARK BEFORE BUT IT'S REALLY REALLY FUN!
IT'S HARD TO TOP PLAYTIME LIKE THIS IN A CAT'S LIFETIME!


YOU DESERVE IT FOR WORKING SO HARD TO GET YOUR BELLS!
Ehehehe!

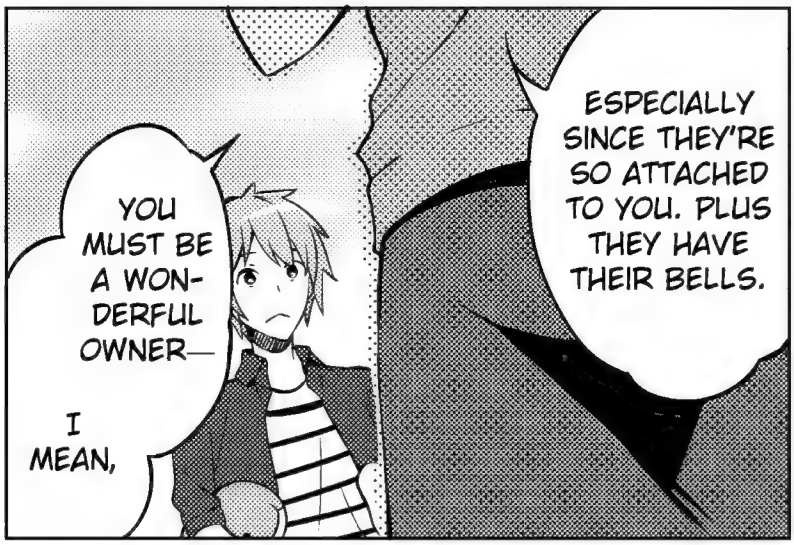
I BET.

NOW THEN.
GOT ANY IDEA WHERE YOU'D LIKE TO GO NEXT?
UM...
MASTER?

BEFORE THAT, CAN WE HAVE A LITTLE BATHROOM BREAK?
GO AHEAD.
ME TOO!
TAKE YOUR TIME.

I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU HERE.
OKAAAY!

HELLO THERE.
YOU SURE LIKE THOSE PLUSHIES, DON'T YOU?
STAFF
HMM?
Phew~
I KNOW, THEY BELONG TO THOSE CATS YOU WERE WITH.
SHE MUST BE ONE OF THE STAFF HERE.
UH, NO, THESE AREN'T FOR ME!
Ahaha...

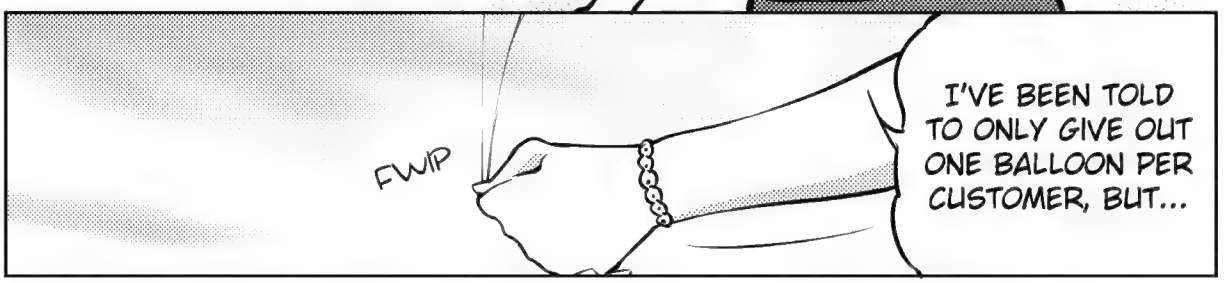

YOU MUST BE A WONDERFUL OWNER— I MEAN,
ESPECIALLY SINCE THEY'RE SO ATTACHED TO YOU. PLUS THEY HAVE THEIR BELLS.

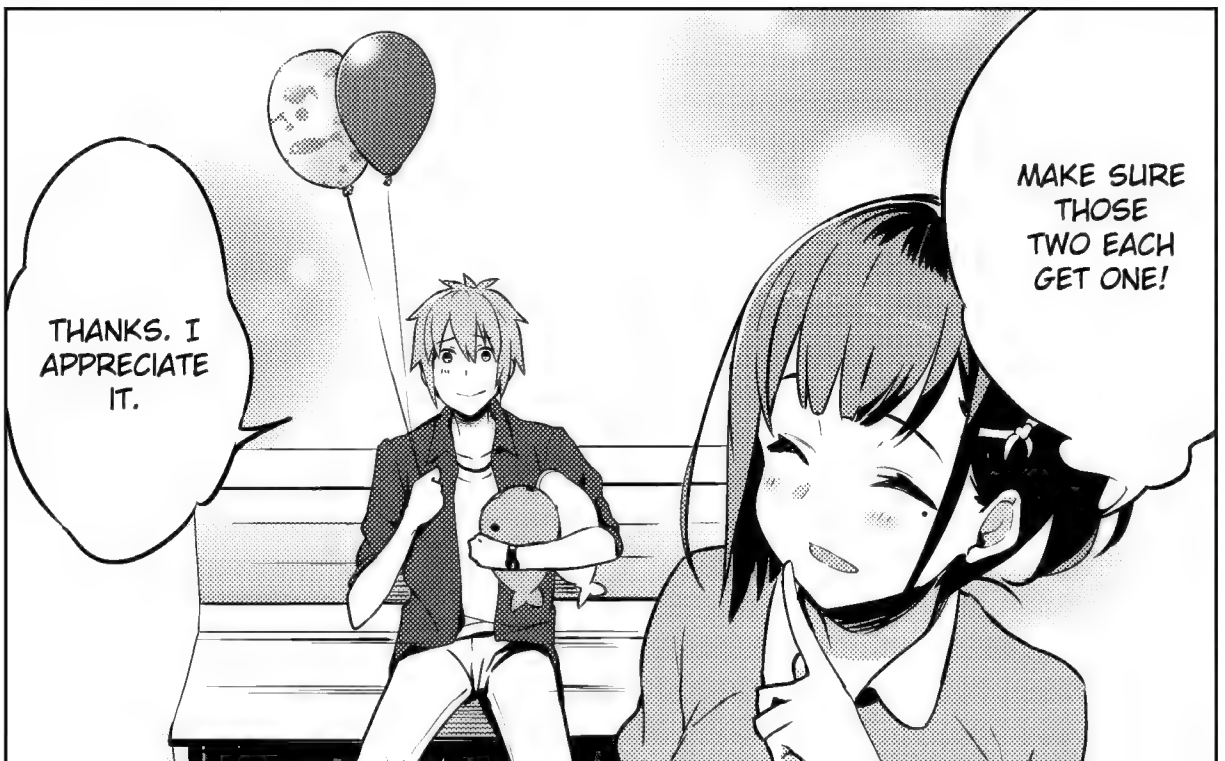
THAT'S A REALLY CUTE PAIR OF KITTIES YOU'VE GOT.

ド
キ
ッ
BOYFR--?!
A WONDERFUL *BOYFRIEND* TO THEM.

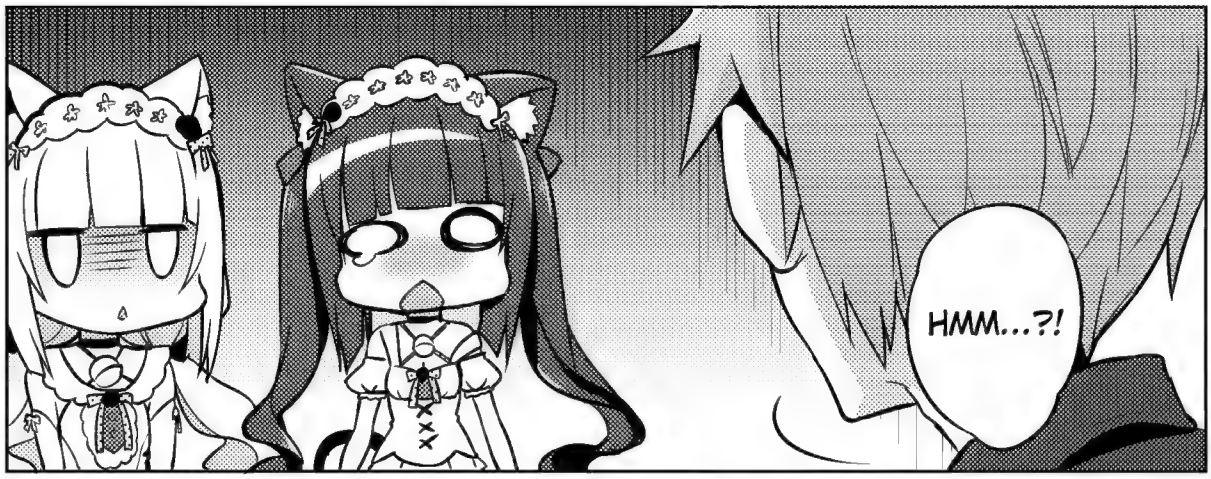
AWW, DON'T BE SO MODEST.
I-I'M JUST REWARDING THEM FOR HELPING OUT AT HOME, OKAY?!

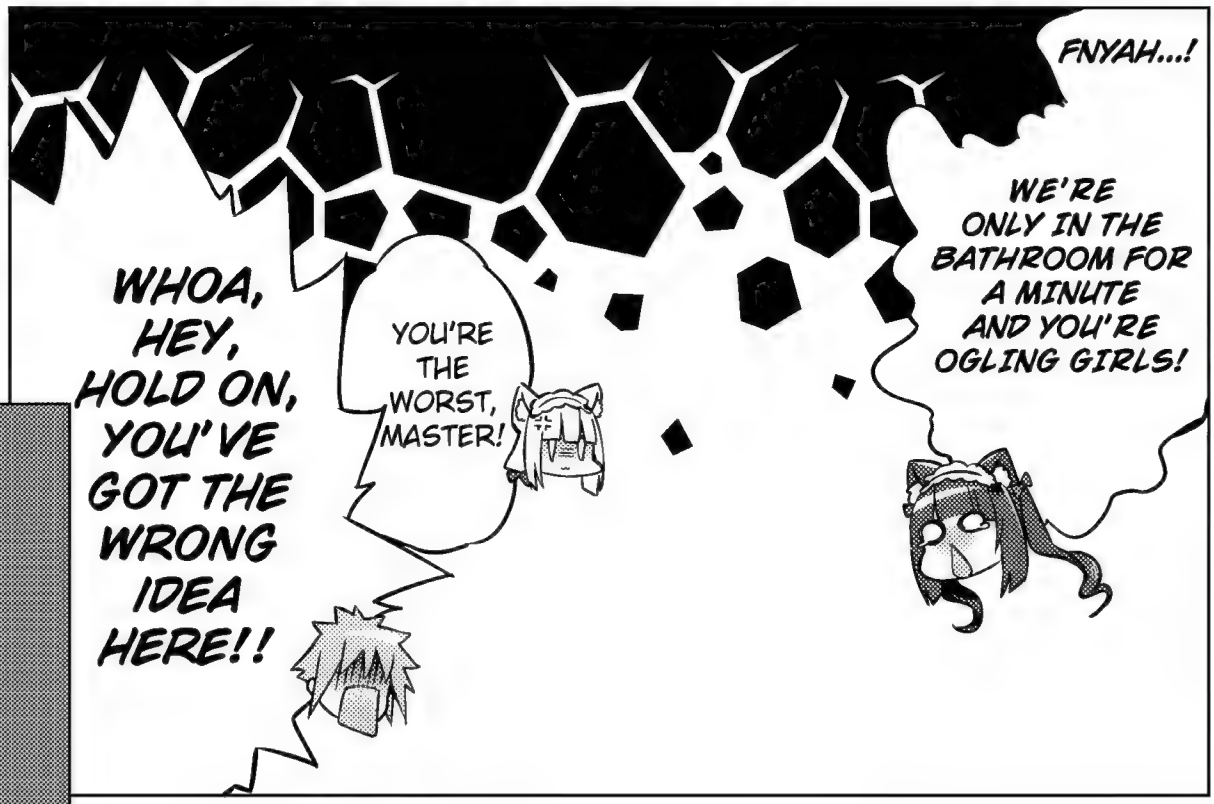
I HAVE A CAT AT HOME MYSELF, YOU SEE.
SO I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL.
STAFF
I SEE. YEAH, I GET THAT.


I'VE BEEN TOLD TO ONLY GIVE OUT ONE BALLOON PER CUSTOMER, BUT...
FWIP

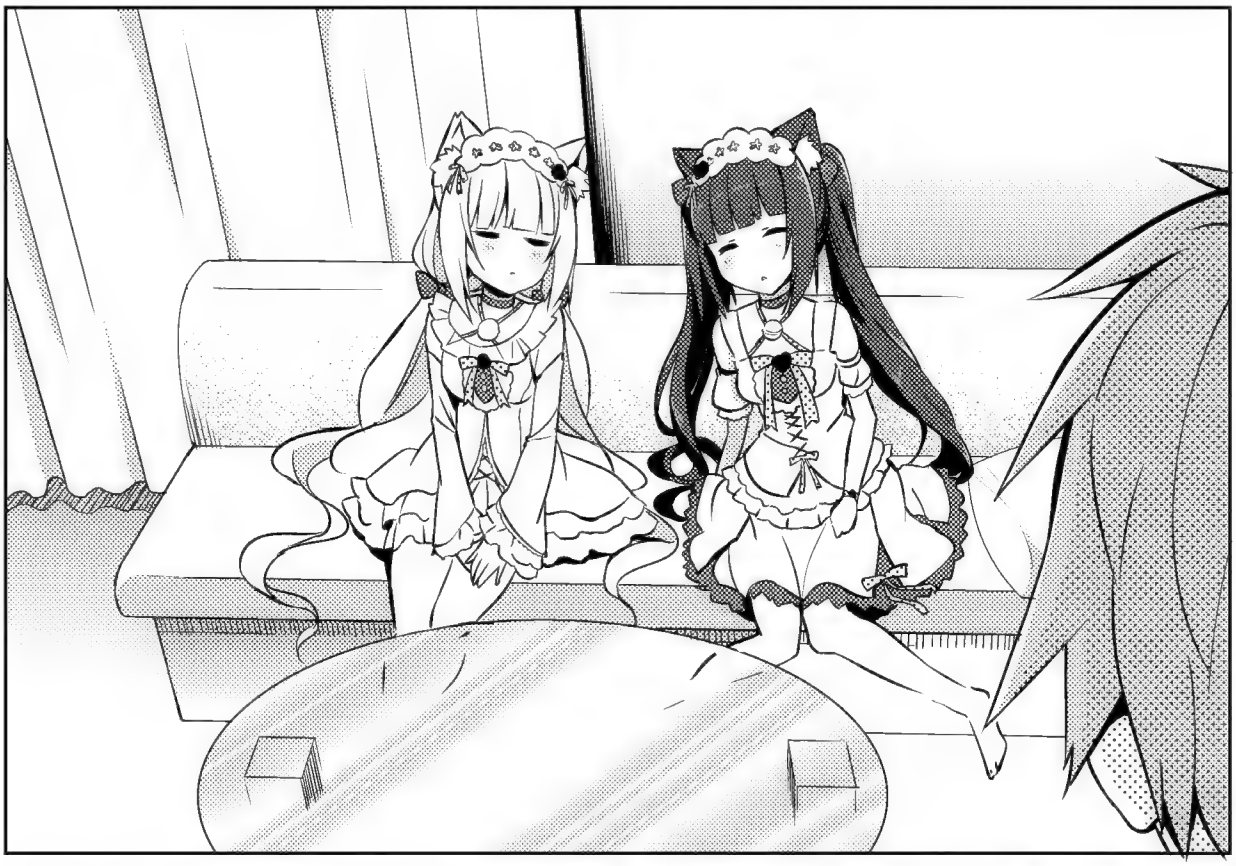

MAKE SURE THOSE TWO EACH GET ONE!
THANKS. I APPRECIATE IT.

MASTER...
じ～～ん
I GUESS OUR RELATIONSHIP DOES MAKE ME A CAT LOVER, IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.
...

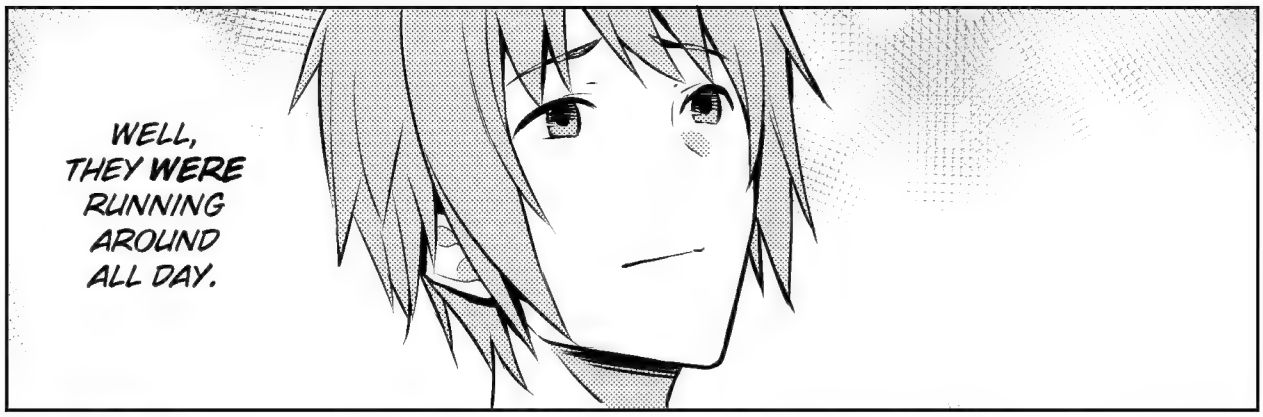

HMM...?!

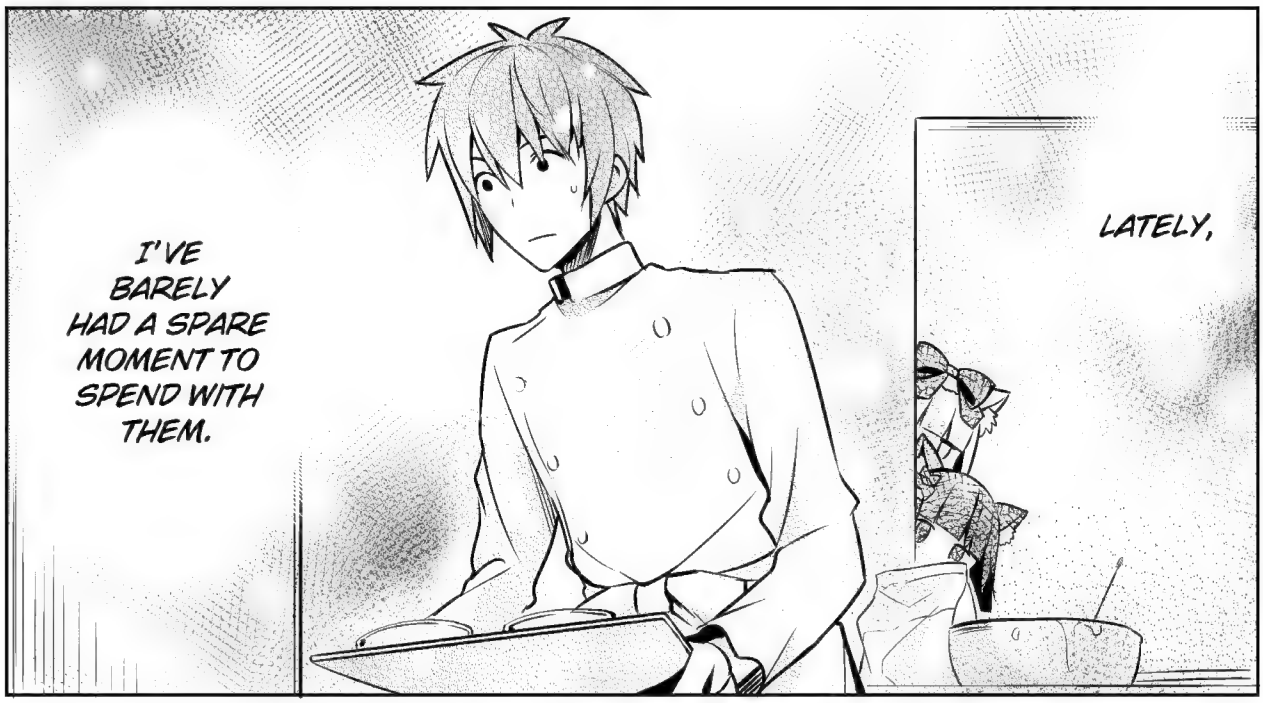

FNYAH...!
WE'RE ONLY IN THE BATHROOM FOR A MINUTE AND YOU'RE OGLING GIRLS!
YOU'RE THE WORST, MASTER!
WHOA, HEY, HOLD ON, YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG IDEA HERE!!

THE BATH'S READY FOR YOU...
CHOCOLA, VANILLA!

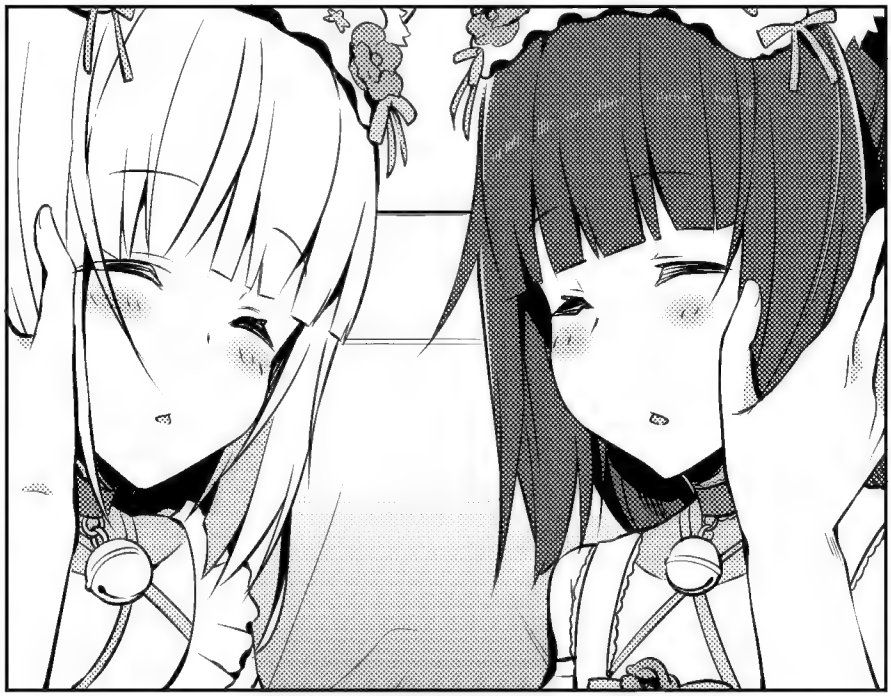


hfff...
haaah...


WELL, THEY WERE RUNNING AROUND ALL DAY.


I'VE BARELY HAD A SPARE MOMENT TO SPEND WITH THEM.
LATELY,

LOOKING BACK...



TO CHOCOLA AND VANILLA FOLLOWING ME HERE,

FROM STARTING MY OWN PATISSERIE

UNTIL THEN,

THAT THEY COULD BECOME AS PRECIOUS TO ME AS THEY ARE NOW.
I NEVER THOUGHT

I HOPE I HAVEN'T CAUGHT A COLD OR SOMETHING.
MASTER...

cough

DID WE DO OUR DATE RIGHT?
ARE WE GOOD CAT-PANIONS?
Mnyom Myah~

WELL...

VANILLA,
CHOCOLA,
YOU SURE ARE.
I HOPE THESE HAPPY DAYS WILL GO ON FOREVER...
LET'S MAKE THIS WORK TOGETHER, ALL THREE OF US.
WAS WHAT I WISHED TO MYSELF.

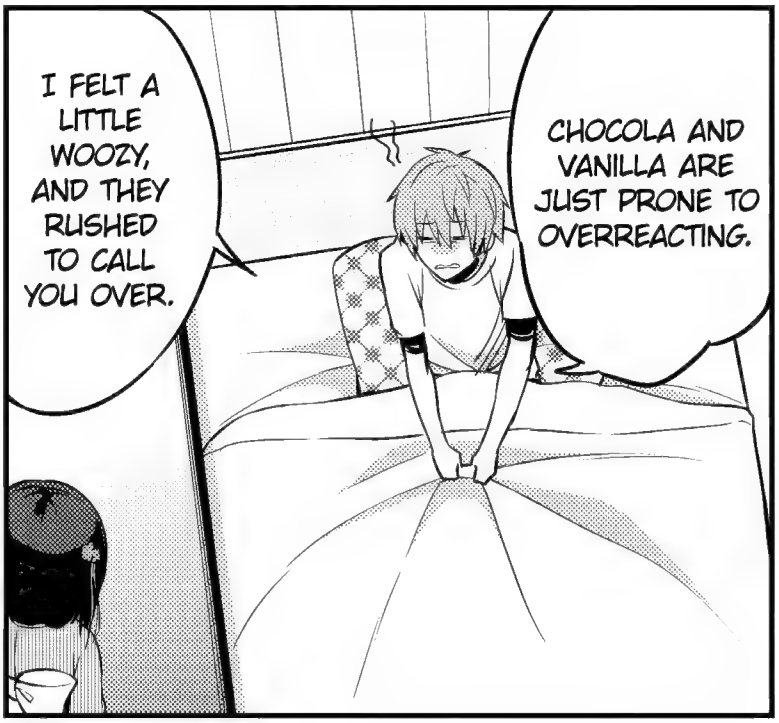
Chapter 6: By your side

MASTER...
MASTER!
I LOVE YOU.
ULTRA-LOVE YOU.
...SAME HERE.
AND I'M NOT LETTING EITHER OF YOU SLEEP TONIGHT!
nyAh!

...AND SO ON.

YOU'VE BEEN GOING AT IT WITH THEM NONSTOP, HAVEN'T YOU?

WHAT YOU'RE IMAGINING IS ALL WRONG, FROM START TO FINISH!



I TOOK CHOCOLA AND VANILLA TO THE THEME PARK THE OTHER DAY.
AND I CAME TO FULLY UNDERSTAND
THAT THE CATS ARE BOTH MY FAMILY AND LOVERS...

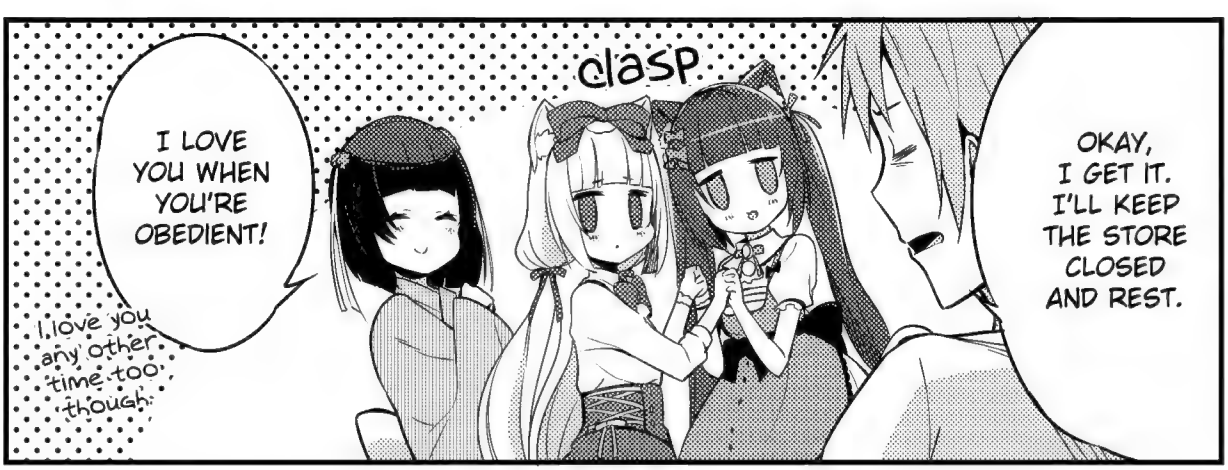
AND SO...
I'M DESPERATE TO KEEP ANY HARDSHIP FROM FALLING ON THEM.
AS BEST I CAN, I MEAN.

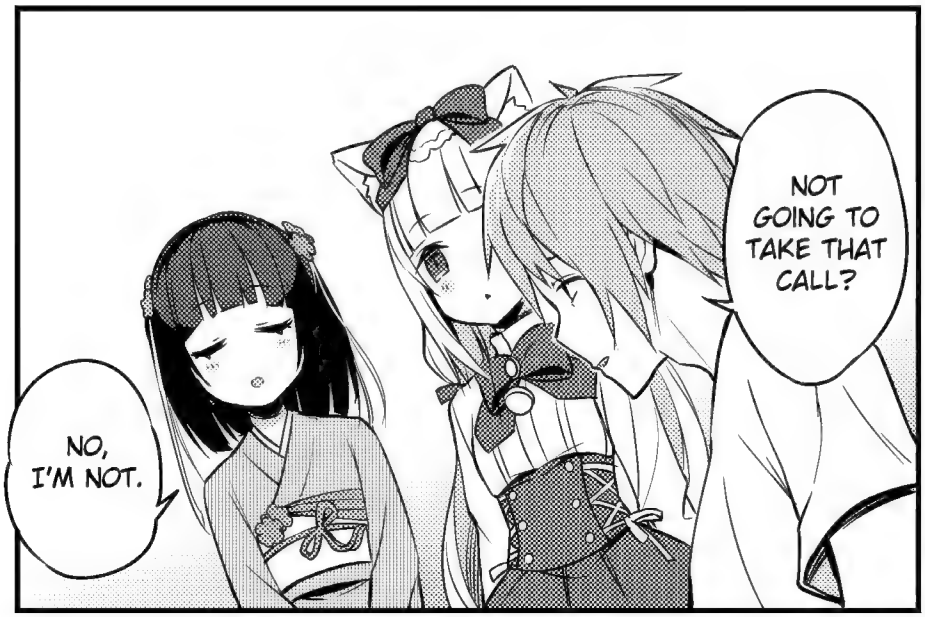
PLUS, HOW CAN YOU EXPECT ME TO RELAX? WE'RE STARTING TO REALLY PULL IN CUSTOMERS NOW...
SWAY
WHAT, YOU WANT TO DROP DEAD ON THE SHOP FLOOR?
WHAT ?!
MASTER! YOU CAN'T DIE ON US!
IT'LL BE SO SAD IF WE'RE WIDOWED OUT OF NOWHERE!
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE DONE CLOSING UP SHOP LIKE I ASKED.
!!
HEY! I DIDN'T SAY TO DO THAT!
BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T NEED TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL?

...IF AN AMBULANCE STOPS OUTSIDE THE SHOP, WE'LL HAVE A LOT OF BAD RUMORS FLYING AROUND.
...BUT,

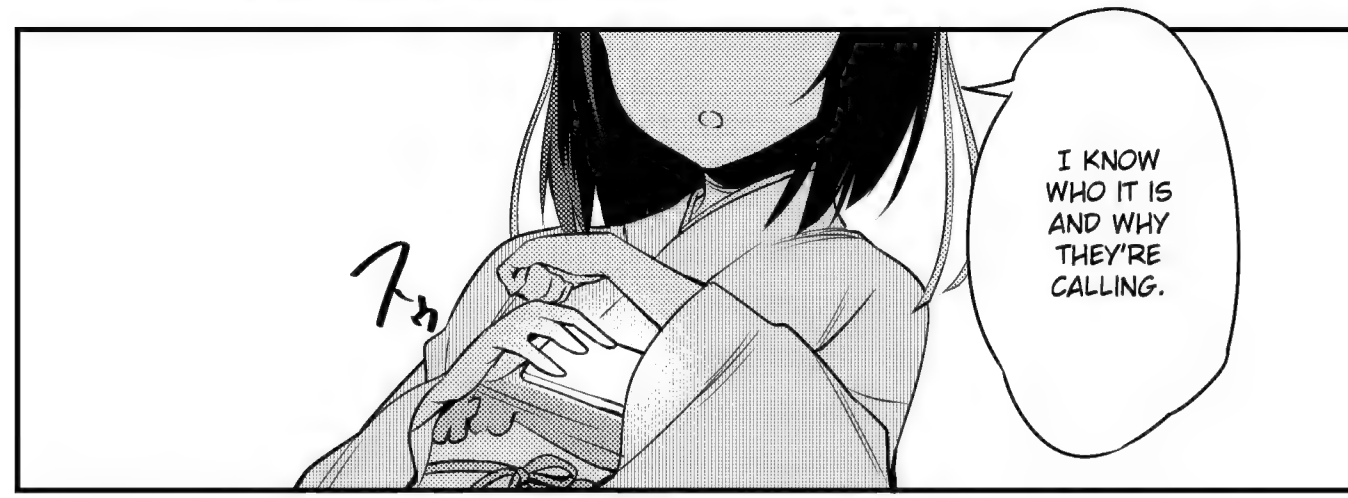
IF THE PERSON CAN'T MOVE, YOU GOTTA CALL AN AMBULANCE.
WE WENT OVER THIS IN THE BELL TESTING.

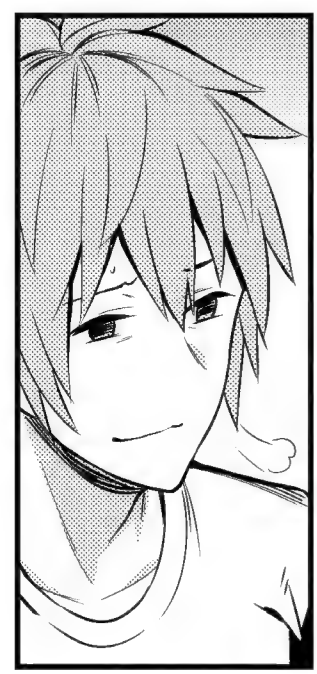
IF I DO GET ANY WORSE, I'LL NEED TO BE ADMITTED.
THEY HAVE A POINT.

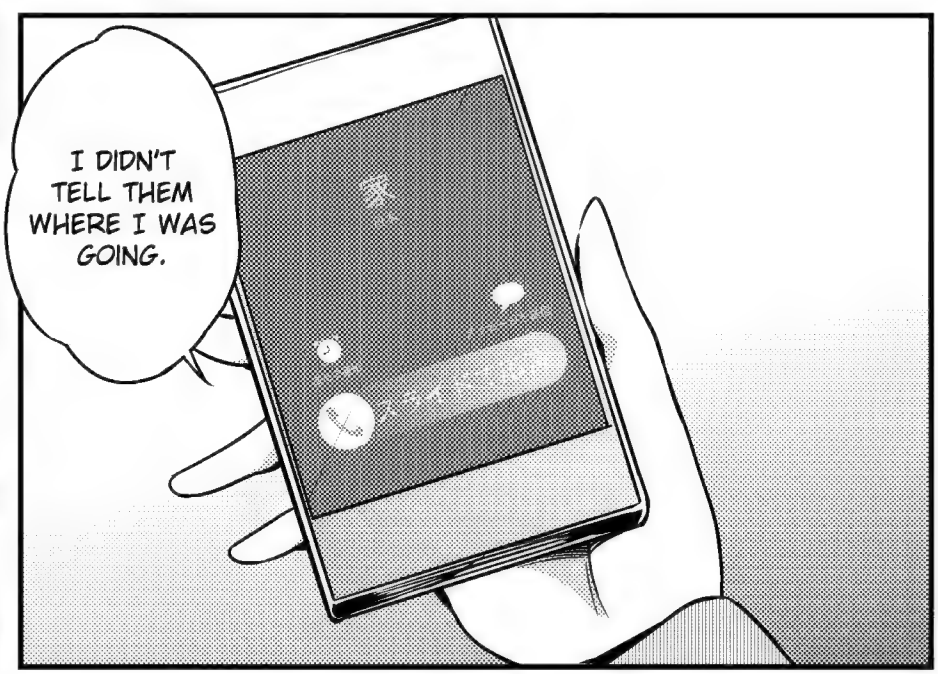

I LOVE YOU WHEN YOU'RE OBEDIENT!
I love you any other time too though.
clasp
OKAY, I GET IT. I'LL KEEP THE STORE CLOSED AND REST.


NOT GOING TO TAKE THAT CALL?
NO, I'M NOT.

RING RING RING


I KNOW WHO IT IS AND WHY THEY'RE CALLING.

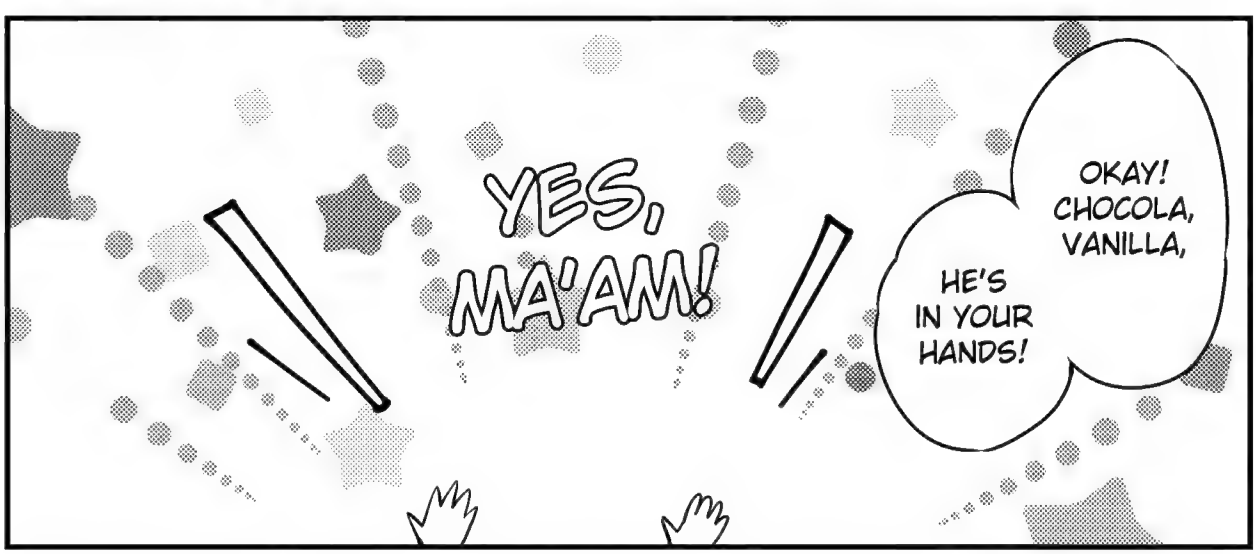


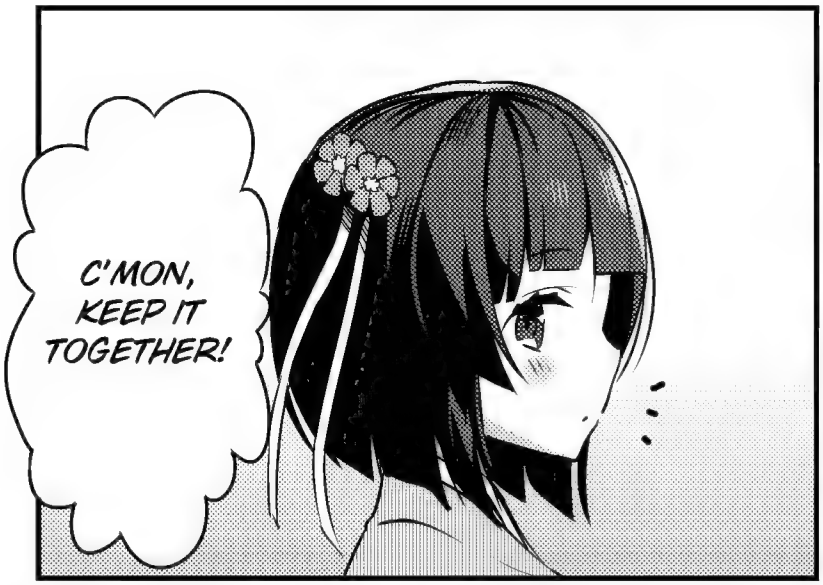

I DIDN'T TELL THEM WHERE I WAS GOING.

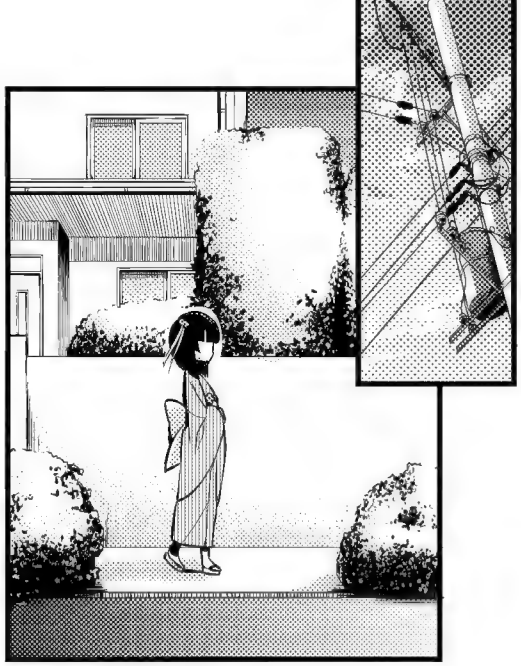
I HAVE CHOCOLA AND VANILLA TO LOOK AFTER ME TOO.
I PROMISE, I'LL BE A GOOD BOY AND STAY IN BED.

VERY WELL THEN.

LOOK, I'LL BE FINE.


OKAY! CHOCOLA, VANILLA,
HE'S IN YOUR HANDS!
YES, MA'AM!


C'MON, KEEP IT TOGETHER!



WHENEVER YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM, I'M ALWAYS HERE FOR YOU!
wipe
OKAY...

THANK YOU, BROTHER!

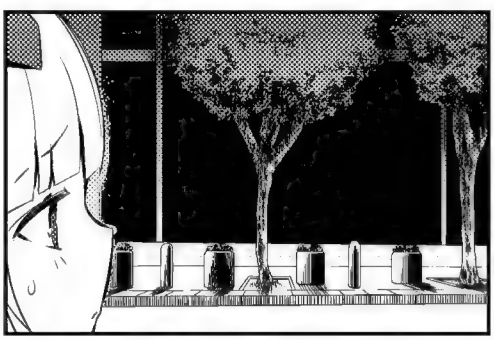
WHY DO I ALWAYS FIND MYSELF BOUND TO WHATEVER MOTHER AND FATHER TELL ME?
IF NOTHING ELSE, I WISH I COULD BE BY MY BROTHER'S SIDE AT TIMES LIKE THESE.
AS HIS SISTER,
AND ALSO...

MYASTER!
ARE YOU OKAY, MASTER? SAY SOME-THING!
39 DEGREES CELSIUS...

WHAT DO WE DO? IT'S EVEN HIGHER THAN BEFORE!

NO...
Finale: The Promise
WHY IS THE CLINIC CLOSED...?!
WE CAME HERE AS FAST AS WE COULD...

...IF AN AMBULANCE STOPS OUTSIDE THE SHOP, WE'LL HAVE A LOT OF BAD RUMORS FLYING AROUND.
I THOUGHT IT'D WORK OUT IF WE CALLED A DOCTOR OVER INSTEAD...



BUT WE CAN'T, SO WHAT NOW...?
I DON'T KNOW ANY OTHER CLINICS...

THERE'S NOT EVEN ANYBODY WALKING AROUND WHO WE COULD ASK...

THE POLICE!

HEY, YOU TWO. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

OUR MASTER'S SICK AND WE WANTED TO FIND A DOCTOR...
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE! COULD YOU TELL US WHERE ANY OPEN CLINICS ARE?!

THAT SOUNDS TERRIBLE...
YOUR MASTER'S SICK?

WE TOOK THEM OFF TO AVOID WAKING HIM UP WHEN WE NURSED HIM...
AH!
BUT WHERE ARE YOUR BELLS?

I SEE... WELL, WOULD YOU MIND COMING WITH US, THEN?
WE ALWAYS HAVE THEM ON NORMALLY!

CATS WITHOUT BELLS AREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE OUTSIDE ON THEIR OWN.
BUT...

OUR BELLS ARE AT HOME...
WE'RE NOT LYING TO YOU, I SWEAR!
THEY'RE AT HOME.

I'M NOT GOING HOME UNTIL I CAN FIND A DOCTOR TO SEE MY MYASTER!
NOT WHILE HE'S SUFFERING LIKE HE IS!

SORRY.

PLEASE, UNDERSTAND ...!

YOU CAN GO HOME AS SOON AS WE CAN CONTACT YOUR MASTER.
OKAY?
BESIDES—

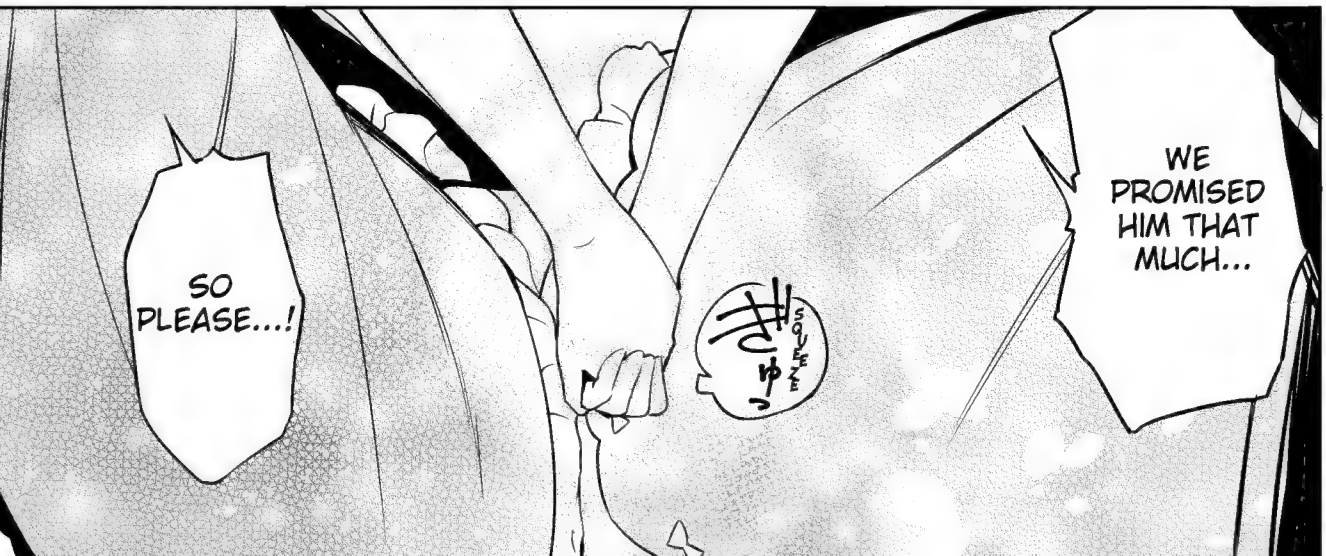
IF YOU RAN OFF ON US, YOU WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST.
PEOPLE WHO USE THEIR CATS TO COMMIT CRIMES ARE ON THE RISE LATELY TOO.

HE SAID HE DOESN'T WANT TO WORRY HIS CUSTOMERS...
OKAY, WE GET IT.

IF YOU HAVE A BELL, SHOULDN'T YOU KNOW THAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO CALL AN AMBULANCE IN TIMES LIKE THIS?
TWITCH
Y- YES, BUT...

ANYWAY... WHY NOT JUST HAVE HIM COME PICK YOU UP, HMM?

MYASTER SAID HE'S COUNTING ON US...
HE WANTED US TO STAY BY HIS SIDE...


WE PROMISED HIM THAT MUCH...
SQUEEZE
ゆっ
SO PLEASE...!

LET US GO!
WE HAVE TO GO HOME TO MYASTER AND HELP HIM!
IF WE CAN'T GO STRAIGHT BACK TO HIS SIDE-!
WHOA, CALM DOWN!
ばっ
step back

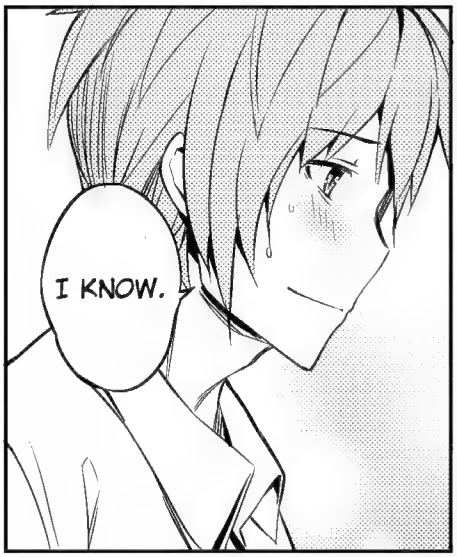
LOOK, THE RULES ARE WHAT THEY ARE. IT'LL JUST CAUSE MORE TROUBLE IF YOU DON'T COME TO THE STATION.
WE'LL LOOK UP WHO YOUR MASTER IS AND GET YOU STRAIGHT HOME ONCE WE'RE THERE.
...OKAY?
DRIP
DOWNPOUR
CHOCOLA!
VANILLA!

ビシャ
SPLASH
ビシャ
SPLISH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
SERIOUSLY, YOU TWO...!
はぁ…
pant
はぁ…
pant
MYASTER?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
THAT'S MY LINE! YOU WERE GONE WHEN I WOKE UP!

AND WITHOUT YOUR BELLS, TO BOOT!
ぱっ
OPEN
BUT WE...
WE...!!

TO BE CLEAR, I'M NOT MAD AT YOU.

THOUGH I'M DEFINITELY A LITTLE MIFFED THAT YOU MADE ME WORRY FOR NOTHING.
BUT YOU WERE IN SUCH TERRIBLE SHAPE, MYASTER!


I KNOW.

WE HAD TO DO SOMETHING, AS YOUR FAMILY...
AND AS YOUR CATPANIONS ...

WHICH IS WHY
PULL
I CAN'T BEAR NOT HAVING YOU HERE WITH ME.
WE'RE SORRY, MYASTE-RRR!
WE DIDN'T MEAN TO WORRY YOU!
じわっ…
TEARY

A FEW DAYS LATER
La Soleil
I'VE LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON.
I NOW KNOW HOW POINTLESS IT IS TO TELL YOU TO TAKE IT EASY.
SO THERE'S ONLY ONE SOLU-TION:
INCREASE YOUR STAFF TO LESSEN YOUR WORKLOAD!
TMP
...SO THIS IS WHAT I HAD IN MIND.
UH...

YOU HAVE A STRICT CURFEW, PLUS YOU HAVE SCHOOL DURING THE WEEK, DON'T YOU?

RIGHT.

WHICH IS WHY I CALLED FOR REINFORCEMENTS TO HELP MY CASE!

AND BY "REINFORCEMENTS" YOU MEAN—

IT'S JUST AS YOU SAY.

THOUGH I AM LOATHE TO ADMIT, I DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO SUPPORT YOU ALONE...!

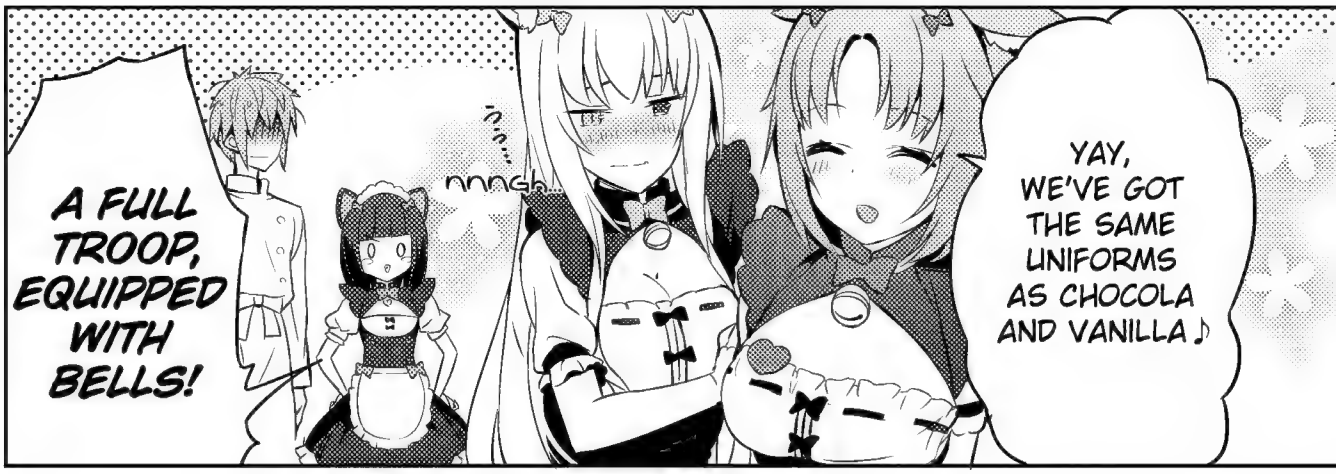
SHO GOOOD!

AZUKI, YOU'VE GOT THE ABSOLUTE WORST TABLE MANNERS.

SERIOUSLY DELISH! I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW TASTY THESE ARE!

はぐっ CHOMP

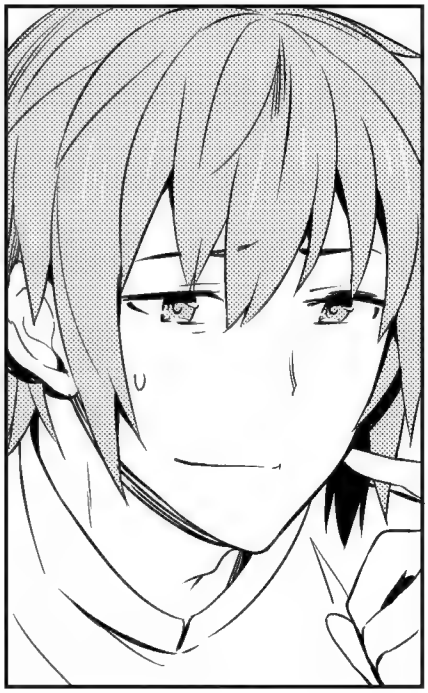
はぐっ CHOMP



I DON'T WANNA WORK, BUT OKAY.
NOT THAT WE WOULD, WITH ALL YOUR DELICIOUS CAKES AND TEA HERE!

WE CAN'T SAY NO!
IF SHIGURE GIVES THE ORDER...

THIS IS WAY MORE ENERGY THAN I BARG-AINED FOR...
THE WHOLE GANG'S BACK TOGETHER.
WELCOME, EVERYONE!



GOOD FOR YOU, SHIGURE ♪
Here's your handkerchief.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THE DAY'S FINALLY COME WHEN I CAN MAKE SWEETS WITH MY BROTHER...!
YEP!
WELL, I GUESS IT'S NICE HAVING EVERYONE IN ONE PLACE AGAIN.
SIGH
DOES ANYTHING INTELLIGENT EVER LEAVE THAT MOUTH OF YOURS, AZUKI?
snicker
HEY, I GET A BONUS FOR BEING THE NUMBER ONE OF THE GROUP, RIGHT?
THIS ISN'T ONE OF THOSE SHOPS WHERE THE GIRLS ARE RANKED...
YOU HONESTLY THINK YOU'RE NUMBER ONE WHILE I'M HERE?

OKAY, KITTIES.
IT'S TIME TO OPEN THE SHOP!
EVERYONE READY?

YEEE EEAH!

AND SO PATISSERIE LA SOLEIL,

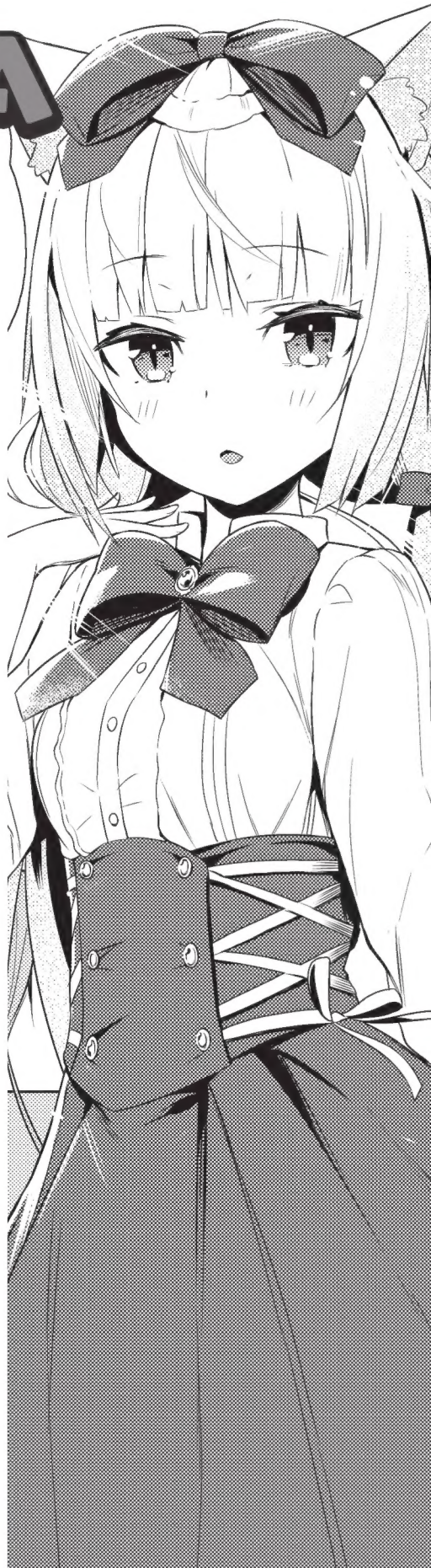
WHICH WOULD SOON EARN THE NICKNAME "CATS PARADISE," TOOK ITS FIRST BIG STEP AS A FLOURISHING BUSINESS.

NEKOPARA CATS PARADISE

ネコぱら

THE END

NEKOPARA



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